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Hafa Adai!

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DHS 'very close' on decisions for immediate relief for CW workers

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan) said yesterday that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security indicated they are "very close" to acting on requests from the CNMI government for immediate relief, or administrative fixes, to the ongoing contract worker crisis.

Demapan

The CNMI government earlier provided administrative measures the federal government could act on to stay the departure of workers who

See DHS on Page 4

Pastors want to do share in solving 'ice' epidemic

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Newly ordained bishop Most Rev. Ryan P. Jimenez said leaders and members of various Christian churches in the CNMI have been planning on how to help curb drug abuse, which is one of the many social problems that the Commonwealth had right now.

Jimenez—installed as the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa's new pastor in a three-hour long ceremony where Chamorro, English, Filipino, and Korean hymns where sang by the choir—said they had their first meeting last year where close to 100 attended.

"We basically wanted to work together on how to address social issues specifically the problem on drugs like the one we have about 'ice,'" Jimenez told *Saipan Tribune*.

"Recently, now that we have a drug court, we heard news that the government will soon open a facility—a rehabilitation center for drug dependents—they are planning now in the budget, I supposed, to have this rehab center facility," he added.

See PASTORS on Page 4

JON PEREZ

Most Rev. Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez addresses the crowd of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa after his Episcopal Ordination and Installation last Sunday at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral.

Hocog honors ESGR in support of Guard members, reservists

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Acting governor Victor Hocog yesterday declared Aug. 15 to Aug 19 as "Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Week" at the Office of the Governor conference room on Capitol Hill.

The proclamation signing yesterday is intended to honor ESGR, a Department of Defense agency, as they support and encourage the employment of National Guard members and military reservists in the civilian workforce.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Joined by National Guard members and reservists, acting governor Victor Hocog declared this week "Employer Support of Guard and Reserve Week."

INSIDE

Unease continues in Milwaukee
One person was shot and wounded and several were arrested during a second night of violent unrest in Milwaukee to protest the fatal shooting of a black man by police.
Milwaukee
WISCONSIN
ILLINOIS
Chicago
DETAIL AREA
Sherman Park
Area of protests and riots
Lake Michigan
Source: AP, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

NATION

Milwaukee police chief expressed surprise at the level of unrest that erupted after the fatal shooting of a black man by a black officer.

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ASIA

Human rights victims of the late Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos' regime petitioned the Supreme Court on Monday to block and nullify a government directive to have the ex-leader buried in a heroes' cemetery.

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LIFE & STYLE

Charlize Theron and Matthew McConaughey take on parental roles in their new film, "Kubo and the Two Strings."

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Local

‘Leadership working to solve Rota’s economic woes’

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Rep. Glenn L. Maratita (R-Rota) remains optimistic that economic activity on Rota will soon pick up after years of experiencing little growth with plans of strengthening ties with Guam, Saipan, and Tinian in the works.

Maratita, the House Judiciary and Governmental Operations chair, said that the $2 million they received from the allocation under Public Law 18-56 has been a big help in keeping them afloat.

The economy in the CNMI’s southernmost island had been stagnant, but Maratita said they have been meeting with various groups to address the issue. He said that they recently met with the Associations of Mariana Islands Mayors, Vice Mayors, and Elected Municipal Council.

“We also met with Guam legislators since we want to establish more working relationship with them. There are plans to have Guam bring in their commodities and Rota providing them with livestock,” said Maratita, the chair of the Rota Legislative Delegation.

Maratita

He added that Rota’s sweet potato crop has somehow helped the local economy with farmers expanding their planting of the crop, which is exported to Guam and is also sold on Saipan and Tinian. “It’s good for the farmers to continue to plant and nurture these crops.”

The issue on direct flights had also been addressed based on the agreement with Star Marianas, which is a huge plus for Rota residents. Star Marianas now has daily direct flights from Saipan to Rota and Rota to Guam.

Maratita is also upbeat on the news of several foreign investors eyeing to build a hotel casino and resort on Rota. “There were at least two that picked up application forms at the Rota Casino Gaming Commission’s office.”

“There’s not much information about it but we’re optimistic that it will push forward. Development is not done overnight thing. We’re hopeful to see more investors come in and establish businesses on Rota,” he added.

Maratita said they also have been working with the Rota Mayor’s Office—under Mayor Efraim Atalig—the administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, the Marianas Visitors Authority, and the Commonwealth Ports Authority on how to bring in more tourists to Rota.

“We’re addressing how to have more tourism activity on Rota. We’re thinking of ways how to attract more participants in the Rota Blue Triathlon and the Rota Fishing Derby,” said Maratita, who added that they’ve been talking with MVA managing director Chris Concepcion.

“We want to make sure we work on all areas in terms of tourism in Rota with the MVA as the major sponsor and with the help of the Rota Mayor’s Office. One way to do that is to bring in direct or chartered flights to Rota. It is a work in progress.”

The airport is also a concern once the flights start to come in. “We also discussed the airport’s status with Gov. [Ralph DLG] Torres and the administration together with CPA will come out with plans to address the issues in the airport.”

Republican senators Steve K. Mesngon (vice chairman) and Teresita Santos and Sen. Paul A. Manglona (Independent) are the other members of the Rota Legislative Delegation.

23 graduate from AHLEI Hospitality Specialty Course

JOAN L. TAITANO
American Hotel & Lodging Educational Institute-Hospitality Specialty Course front desk attendant graduates pose after the certification and pin ceremony held last night at the Kanoa Resort in Susupe.

By JOAN L. TAITANO
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REPORTER

A total of 23 graduated from the American Hotel & Lodging Educational Institute-Hospitality Specialty Course and were feted during last night’s certification and pin ceremony held at the Kanoa Resort in Susupe.

James T. Arenovski, president of Island Training Solutions and the person who conducted the AHLEI three-week training, presented the graduates—ranging from 17 to 40 years old—with their certificates and pins as certified guest room attendants, restaurant servers, and front desk attendants.

David Maratita, acting secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, explained the reason why this program was created in the first place.

“We wanted to address the economic situation of the CNMI as discussed in Public Law 110-229 and this program’s goal is to enhance the CNMI workforce and escalate people’s skills in hospitality.”

Maureen Sebangiol, Island Training Solutions administrator and Latte Training Academy board member, said that the only two requirements to avail of this program is to be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident who is currently employed in the hotel industry in one of these three areas: guest room attendants, restaurant servers, and front desk attendants.

One of the certified restaurant server graduates, Vicente Ada, was swelling with pride upon receiving his certificate. Ada, a 16-year-old Saipan Southern High School student, said that he wants to be a manager someday and obtaining this certificate is one step closer to achieving that goal in the future.

JOAN L. TAITANO
Vicente Ada, 16, one of the AHLEI-Hospitality Specialty Course graduates, is filled with pride and happiness upon receiving his pin and certification as a restaurant server.

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'Likely no changes for designated polling places'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Candidates for House of Representatives and Senate for the upcoming general election in Nov. 8 pose for a photo at the Commonwealth Election Commission at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

The designated polling places for the Nov. 8 general election will likely be the same from the 2014 election, according to Commonwealth Election Commission chair Frances Sablan.

"We are anticipating the same," Sablan said.

The CEC chair said she has not consulted with CEC acting executive director Julita A. Villagomez as to where the polling places will be.

That matter, Sablan said, is included in the agenda at their meeting with CEC commissioners today, Wednesday.

Villagomez earlier told *Saipan Tribune* that there will likely be no changes on the designated polling places.

"The only time we change it is we find the places inconvenient to the people," Villagomez pointed out.

Villagomez said this November will be the third election that no changes have been taken on the designated polling places.

For Precinct I-A the polling place is Hopwood Junior High School; Dandan Middle School is for Precinct I-B; and Koblerville Youth Center for Precinct I-C.

For Precinct 2, Joeten Kiyu Library is the polling place.

Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium is for Precinct 3A and Garapan Elementary School for Precinct 3-B.

Tanapag Elementary School is for Precinct 4-A; Gregorio Camacho Elementary School for Precinct 4-B; Jesus Mafnas Legislature Building for Precinct 4-C; and Northern Islands for Precinct 4-D.

Kagman Elementary School will be the polling place for Precinct 5, while Tinian Elementary School is for Precinct 6 and Rota Northern Marianas College is for Precinct 7.

Retiree arrested for allegedly sexually abusing 4-year-old girl

» 54-year-old also said to have victimized 2 other women when they were minors

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A 54-year-old man was arrested on Monday night in Talafofo for allegedly sexually abusing a 4-year-old girl and two other women when they were still minors.

Michael Barry Murphy, a retired U.S. Army Reserve, was arrested for sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree, and assault and battery.

At a hearing yesterday, Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio increased to $50,000 cash bail from the initial $25,000 cash bail.

Preliminary hearing will be on Aug. 24 at 9am.

Kim-Tenorio ordered Murphy to hire his own lawyer after she found him not eligible for court-appointed counsel.

Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds appeared for the government at the hearing.

According to a police report, the 4-year-old girl is the daughter of a 20-year-old woman, who alleged that Murphy also sexually abused her when she was 9 to 12 years old between 2005 and 2008.

The other woman, who is now 26 years old, is a relative of the mother-and-daughter victims. She alleged that Murphy also sexually abused her when she was 9 to 14 years old.

Police Detective Catherine B. Pangelinan stated in her report that she started the investigation on Monday at noon after she received a call from an official of the Department of Public Safety about a sexual abuse of a minor case.

Pangelinan said the 20-year-old woman, in an interview, stated she wants to file a complaint against Murphy who allegedly sexually abused her several times when she was 9 to 12 years old.

Pangelinan said the 20-year-old woman added that when she came back home last Aug. 5 at 2am, she was shocked and scared upon seeing Murphy sexually abusing her 4-year-old daughter in the room.

The mother then later took a video of her daughter, who was crying and telling her how Murphy touched her private parts.

Pangelinan said the 26-year-old woman in an interview was also crying and very emotional when she recalled how Murphy sexually abused her when she was 9 to 14 years old at a house in Capital Hill and in a jungle in Obyan.

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Leepan wants provisions to require govt to pay on time

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Rep. Joseph Leepan Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) wants to require the Commonwealth government and its agencies to pay their contractual obligations on time.

He has introduced House Bill 19-192, which would establish provisions to get government to pay on a timely manner.

The bill's findings cite the "unjustified delays" in prompt compensation that discourages firms and organizations from doing businesses with the Commonwealth government and agencies.

Among other provisions, the bill states, "each Commonwealth agency which is required to make a payment from Commonwealth funds according to a contract and which does not make such a contract payment by the required payment date shall be liable for payment to the contractor."

It is also states that unless otherwise agreed by the contract, the required payment date shall be 30 calendar days, excluding legal holidays, or 90 calendar days in the case of final payments on highway construction contracts, excluding legal holidays.

But the bill details exemptions for this requirement like insufficient cash balance of the fund or sub-fund from which payment is to be made, if goods or services have not been delivered, and if an invoice must be examined by the federal government prior to payment, among others.

"Consistent with accepted business practices and with sound principles of fiscal management, it is the intent of this legislation to encourage Commonwealth agencies in all three branches of Commonwealth Government to make payments expeditiously as they currently do and to further reduce existing payment processing times whenever feasible," the bill states.

The bill also at the same time intends to permit agencies to "perform proper and reasonable financial oversight activities designed to ensure that the Commonwealth government receives the quality of goods and services to which it is entitled and to ensure that public funds are spent in a prudent and responsible manner."

LAULAU BEACH CLEANUP CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Marianas Visitors Authority and Northern Marianas Diving Operations Association conducted their regular cleanup of Laulau Beach last Aug. 12, clearing overgrown brush and picking up trash in the area. The site was adopted by the MVA and NMDOA several years ago and is one of Saipan's most popular dive sites.

HOCOG

From Page 1

During the signing event, Hocog asked all directors and secretaries to extend their utmost support to service members. The acting governor also acknowledged the sacrifices made by all service members in defending the country and stressed that service members and their employment remain a priority of the administration.

The event was joined by members of ESGR, Guard members, and reservists in full uniform, including those from the National Guard unit out of Guam and other supporters.

David Sablan Jr., state chairman for the CNMI and Guam, highlighted the role ESGR played in protecting service members and noted that the CNMI and Guam ESGR is made up of 20 volunteers. He acknowledged two of them on Saipan, Janice Tenorio and Rose Igitol.

According to Sablan, there are about 2,700 guardsmen and reservists in the CNMI and Guam.

The proclamation signed by Hocog yesterday honors the thousands of men and women who have served in the Guam guard and who continue in a tradition of service and heroism.

It notes that ESGR is instrumental in supporting these National Guard and Reserve members with civilian jobs in addition to their military duties and their employees.

The proclamation notes the responsibilities of Guard members and reservists who are able to respond when called upon to disaster emergencies.

"Many service members return form active duty and deployment and are faced with uncertainty in tough economic times. It is important, now more than ever, to ensure they have a job when they return," the proclamation states.

PASTORS

From Page 1

And this is where pastors like him and other church leaders would do their share. "That's why us pastors, we started planning, like where are we in this whole structure, in this whole organizational chart," said Jimenez.

He said that they won't be running the facility but would rather help the persons recover from their drug problem "We're all excited to do our share in solving this social problem. And we will collaborate, we're not going to run the facility in all, but we will simply would come in and do what can we do to help the persons in the center to help them recover."

He added that they could provide counseling and spiritual guidance to persons in the rehab center. "We wanted to come in and minister. Pray with and for the person. And maybe we could also provide pastoral counseling."

"In the spiritual sense, maybe just to go there, to the planned rehab facility, and provide services. Help the persons in that center. Help them in their rehabilitation and change their ways. So these are the things that we can work together."

One challenge at a time

Jimenez, who was appointed by Pope Francis as the Diocese's second bishop last June after being the Apostolic Administrator for more than six years, said the Catholic Church in the CNMI is also facing a lot of challenges.

"We're going to take one challenge at a time. But again I think we are reminded that in all of this, we're not in charge. God is in charge. In every challenge, we must allow God to enlighten us," said Jimenez.

"And as a new leader of the Diocese, when you mentioned about challenges, we're going to work with my brother priests and pastors from the other churches. Because we all come from one God and I can't do it on my own," said Jimenez.

"If we can start with that, bask in the goodness of each person; each one of us is created in the image and likeness of God. And I think we are off to a good start," he added.

He was also pleased with last Saturday's Bike The Faith event where other Christian churches took part and their respective pastors prayed for him. He said that he hopes the event would be the start of better things within all Christians.

"That was probably the first time an event like this was organized. In the Catholic Church we have this what we call efforts for ecumenism. We may have differences with the doctrinal component, of our faith but it doesn't mean that we can't be together," said Jimenez.

"It gives a message that we are all the same; we are under one living God. We may have different ways of doing things and worship. But in the end we are all connected. I hope this outside of the ordinary be the start of better things in the church," he added.

Lifestyle change

Jimenez said that he would still devote some time for sports like running and riding the bike to maintain a healthy lifestyle. He used to play tennis, moved to running, then to cycling, before taking on his first full triathlon—Tagaman—this year.

"I already love sports, I used to play tennis, and I love to do a lot of things. I come from an island where I grew up climbing trees. So it comes naturally that I love the outdoors," said Jimenez.

"The realization hit me when I was diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes after my ordination as priest. After I was diagnosed, I really needed a full lifestyle change. Like here, from birth to death, and in between comes food."

"I love food. I love to eat who doesn't? The question back then was 'what do I do to kind of balance that?' And that is when I tried sports. Hopefully this goal and plan to have a healthy living is sustained," added Jimenez.

DHS

From Page 1

have to leave the Commonwealth by the end of the fiscal year.

These included relief to allow workers to stay while they submit a new CW permit application, parole in place or humanitarian parole for workers, and adjusting the current worker to alleviate the strain on the economy after the cap was breached for the first time this fiscal year, among others.

Demapan was part of the "Section 902" talks team, led by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, who met with highly placed federal counterparts in Washington, D.C. last month and Honolulu, Hawaii last week.

Demapan said the group recognizes this is a drawn-out process because of the complexity of the topics and the intricacies of the requests the CNMI is making.

Still, he hopes they have certainty on these requests before the third round of talks, which are planned for September on Saipan.

He says the federal government has shown good faith in taking into consideration the requests they have put forth. These also included long-term recommendations on the CNMI's unique immigration system.

"We remain hopeful. I don't think we walked away fully discouraged," said Demapan. "The dialogue is ongoing and we will continue to remain optimistic as long as the tone is what it is at this point."

"They are close to making a decision," the House lawmaker from Precinct 1 went on to say. "Whether or not it's favorable, that we don't know. But either way, we would like to restore some degree of certainty to the business community and to employees."

The CW crisis is expected to have shepherded more than 1,300 employees out of the Commonwealth by the end of the fiscal year, affecting families and employers alike.

Torres, in a statement, yesterday said the CNMI made great strides in these round of talks.

The Office of the Governor statement also said they have reached "an agreement that the CNMI needs the tools and policies to adequately transition its workforce to greater numbers of U.S.-eligible workers."

"The issues we brought to the table are complex and incredibly important to this administration. The only way that the CNMI and the federal government can achieve our mutual goals is to talk honestly and in as much detail as we can in the spirit of cooperation," said Torres. "While the 902 process is intended to be long term in nature, I feel like we have made great strides during this round. I thank our federal partners for their openness and partnership, and I thank the people of the CNMI for your understanding of the importance these talks have for our future."

Some critics have questioned these trips to Hawaii and the nation's capitol as an added expense, doubting the usefulness of such dialogue, but Demapan yesterday stressed that the 902 talks are a part of the CNMI Covenant that established a relationship with the U.S. and gives them an opportunity for high-level discussion with authorities who need to be informed about issues affecting the landscape of the CNMI economy.

"In terms of expense, for me," Demapan said, "the grave expense would be just doing nothing, not negotiating at this high level, and watching our economy crumble. We owe it to our people to exert every effort that we safeguard our economy, and safeguard the livelihood of our people that call the Northern Marianas their home. I think that's what matters at the end of the day."

The second round of talks occurred from Aug 10 to Aug. 11 last week and was led by assistant secretary of Interior for Insular Areas Esther Kia'aina, on the federal government's side.

She was accompanied by assistant secretary of Homeland Security and Border, Immigration and Trade Policy Seth Stodder and deputy assistant secretary of Defense for Basing Peter J. Potochney, who is also performing the duties of assistant secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment.

Wolf, youngest to be admitted to Interact Club

By: ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Yesterday, 12-year-old Jonathan Wolf, the guest speaker of the Rotary Club of Saipan weekly meeting, impressed many of the board members with a speech at the Hyatt Regency Saipan. Especially impressed was Rotary board member Sapuro Rayphand, who immediately processed the admittance of Wolf into the Interact Club, the high school counterpart of Rotary Club of Saipan.

Rayphand was very proud to announce that Wolf would be the youngest to be admitted into the Interact Club.

"This is the first time we have a kid that young to be admitted in the Interact. That is very special, so I had to ask the board for permission and they said, 'no problem,'" said Rayphand.

Rayphand also expressed how delighted he was now that Wolf was in the Interact Club. Rayphand is now targeting Wolf's older brother, Kelvin. "I was so happy. He would probably be with the high school kids and maybe his older brother. I'd like to see both of them together because they're coaching each other so we are just expanding the more exciting things for both of them."

When skill met talent in Wolf, Rayphand was simply mindblown. "When he talked like a really mature kid, I said, I recognize that talent, I want to tap into that! It's a waste if you don't push the kids that got the talent. It's a good thing the mother and father are willing to give him the chance," said Rayphand.

"I'm grateful that the board agrees and that he should be admitted," added Rayphand.

"There is a high school, Marianas High School, president for the Interact [Club there] her name is Coleen Duenas. There is another high school president for Interact at Kagman High, her name is Andrea Camacho. If the family is closer to either place, they can go talk to them and tell them that I said that this kid should be admitted and be membered. The youngest ever. His ability to communicate and to be able to convey anything is special," added Rayphand in reference to Wolf's admission into Interact.

Rayphand also sees this as an opportunity to prove to others that hard work pays off. "We want to recognize kids and say this is your model, you should work as hard."

In full faith of the future generation, Rayphand claims,"Kids are very smart. Given the opportunity they can go anywhere; they can compete anywhere. Whatever's good for the kids is good for the community as well."

One of the first teachers of the Marianas High School, Rayphand taught high school English since 1969 and practiced law after. Rayphand also served the community for a few years.

The younger Wolf recently made CNMI history when he finished first in the Declamation category of the 2016 National and Junior National Speech & Debate National Tournament held last June in Salt Lake City, Utah.

ERWIN ENCINARES

The Jonathan Wolf and his family pose with the Rotary Club Saipan's board members after he served as guest speaker during the organization's weekly meeting yesterday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan. From left, Rotary board members Wendell Posadas and Sapuro Rayphand, Wolf's father Leslie, Rotary board member Curtis Dancoe, Wolf's mother Johanne, Rotary board members Eli Stoilova and Pete Schilling, Jonathan Wolf, Rotary board member Sonya Dancoe, Rotary vice president Brian Clayton, and Rotary president Ivan Ilmov.

Strong winds, scattered showers to continue until the weekend

Persistent monsoon flow is expected to bring strong southwest winds with scattered showers and thunderstorms over the Marianas through at least the end of the week, while a small craft advisory remains in effect until Friday at 7pm.

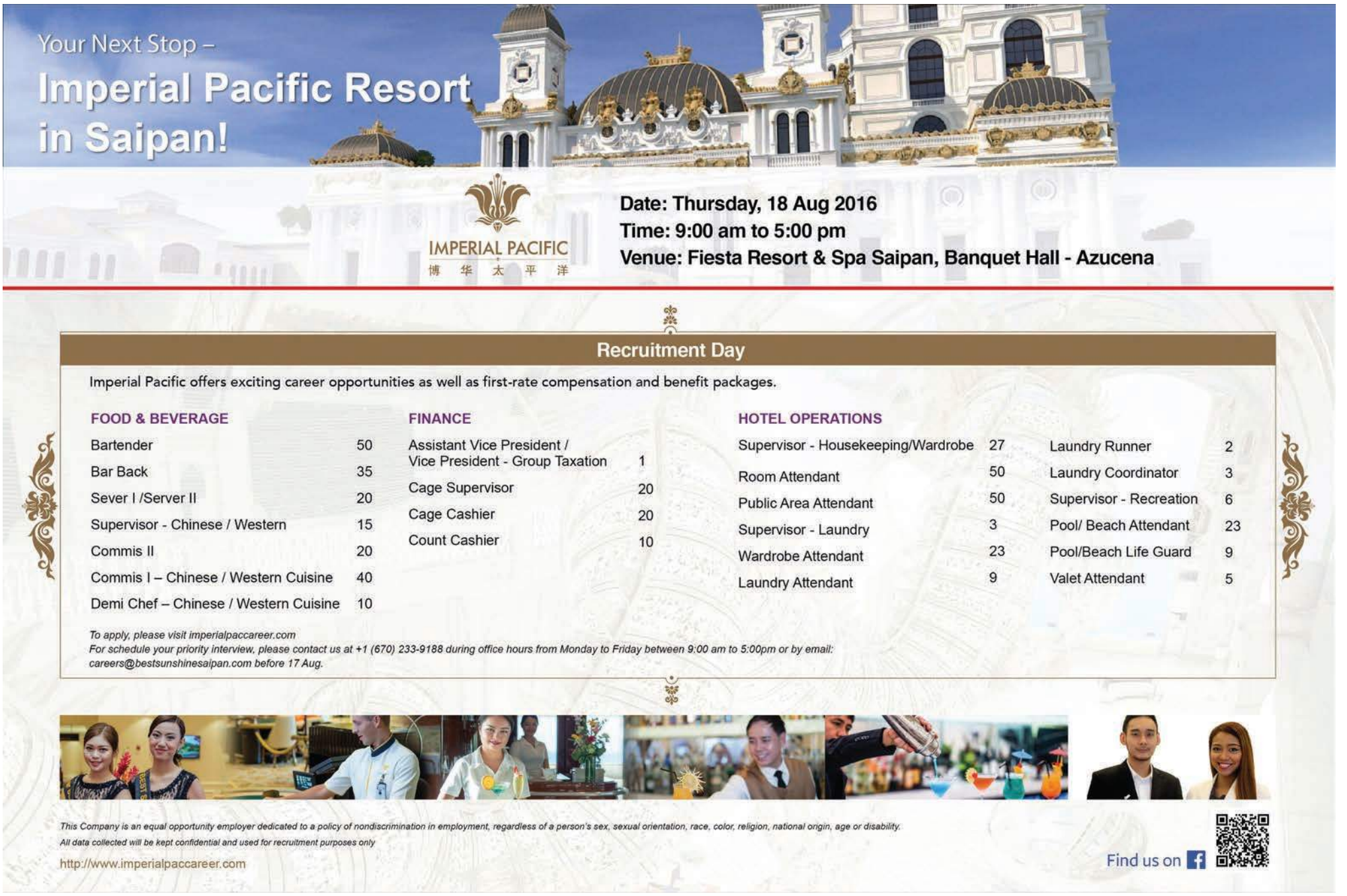
According to the U.S. National Weather Service Guam yesterday, periods of heavy rainfall and flooding are still possible throughout the week for the Marianas.

NWS again advised the people to avoid venturing into the coastal waters until hazardous seas and dangerous seas and rip currents subside.

NWS said a small craft advisory remains in effect until Friday at 7pm as southwest winds of 20 to 25 knots and combined seas of 10 to 12 feet will produce hazardous conditions for operators of small boats.

NWS said inexperienced mariners, especially those operating small vessels, should avoid sailing in these conditions.

"Avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches especially those facing west and south as rip currents will be life-threatening," the weather agency said. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***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CUC-RFP-16-016

TYPHOON SOUDELOR PERMANENT RESTORATION PROJECT
CUC POWER PLANTS 1, 2, AND 4
SAIPAN, CNMI

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced construction firms for the Typhoon Soudelor Permanent Restoration Project for CUC Power Plant Nos. 1 and 2, located at Lower Base and No. 4, located at Puerto Rico, Saipan, CNMI.

The Contractor shall provide and pay for all labor, materials, tools, equipment, transportation, temporary construction of every nature, and all other services and facilities necessary to execute, complete and deliver the work within the specified time frame.

A **mandatory pre-proposal conference** will be conducted at the CUC Power Plant Administration Building in Lower Base, Saipan on **August 16, 2016 at 10:00 a.m., ChST.** Immediately after the conference, Site Visits to Power Plant facilities will be arranged. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID.

One (1) original and Five (6) hard copies and 1 Compact Disc (CD) of the entire submission in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked ***"CUC RFP-16-016 Typhoon Soudelor Permanent Restoration Project, CUC Power Plants 1, 2, and 4*** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on August 31, 2016.** Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

The awarded Proposer will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page – https://marianaslabor.net/.

A Proposal Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Proposer due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers. All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proposer awarded a contract.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on August 19, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, Purchasing Assistant via email address Marcela.Tenorio@cucgov.org and Venugopal Prabhakara, Power Generation APCM/PM via email address venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-16-018

FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director, is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to perform a financial and compliance audit of the CUC for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016. The audit must be performed in compliance with the latest revision of the following guidelines:

1. *OMB Circular A-133*
2. *Standard for Audits of Government Organization, Programs, Activities and Function, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States*
3. *Audits of States and Local Government Units, Industry Audit guide issued by the American Institute of Public Accountants (AICPA)*

The date of contract award will be no later than September 15, 2016. Audit work shall commence thereafter and must be completed by January 31, 2017.

The RFP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one RFP package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-16-018, Financial and Compliance Audit for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2016"to Mr. Michael Pai, Public Auditor, Office of the Public Auditor, 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST), local time, on September 9, 2016.** Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All inquiries regarding the RFP must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 26, 2016** to Michael Pai, Public Auditor, Office of the Public Auditor, 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950 with a copy to Joann Paraiso, CUC Acting Chief Financial Officer, via email address joanne.paraiso@cucgov.org and Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reasons and to waive any defects in any proposals if, in its sole opinion, to do so will be in the best interest of the CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

JAMES SIROK
Acting Executive Director

MANUEL B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

'Defendant charged with child abuse or neglect not entitled to jury trial'

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho yesterday ruled that a defendant facing a child abuse or neglect is not entitled to a jury trial but only a bench trial.

In denying defendant Jesse Billy Mailuw Jr.'s request for a jury trial, Camacho said the maximum penalty for child abuse or neglect under the law does not entitle a defendant to a jury trial.

Camacho

The judge said the law states that if a person is charged with a crime that is punishable by more than five years imprisonment or $2,000 fine or both, then that person is entitled to a jury trial.

Camacho said a person convicted of child abuse or neglect may be punished by imprisonment for not more than five years imprisonment, a fine of not more than $2,000, or both.

Camacho said the law also states that the court may, upon conviction, order that the person be provided with appropriate counseling to cure, alleviate or prevent psychological problems that are judged to be related to the child abuse incident.

The judge noted that by including counseling, the Commonwealth Legislature is acknowledging that, often defendants in child abuse or neglect cases may be better served by learning parental skills or anger management to cure the root cause of the abuse or neglect.

"The law as written does not entitle the defendant to a jury trial for the charge of child abuse or neglect," Camacho said.

Last April, police arrested the 40-year-old Mailuw for allegedly burning papers, throwing $250 in a fire, and threatening to burn his family at their residence in Koblerville Turnkey Housing.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Mailuw with disturbing the peace, assault, and child abuse or neglect.

According to Police Detective Peter A. Aldan in his report, Mailuw got mad of the mess in the room of his 15-year-old daughter.

Mailuw threatened that if he comes back in 10 minutes, he was going to burn his daughter's room and clothes.

As Mailuw was talking with his wife in the living room, he started to get mad, burned some papers, and threw them at her wife's chest while she was carrying their infant baby.

Mailuw threatened his wife that he's going to burn all of them in the house.

Mailuw, through counsel assistant public defender Michael Sato, requested for a jury trial. Sato argued that the child abuse or neglect charge entitled him to a jury trial.

The crux of defendant's argument is that, since the punishment for child abuse or neglect may include court-ordered counseling upon conviction, that this exceeds the threshold sentence.

The government, through assistant attorney general Shannon Foley, opposed the motion. She argued, among other things, that the counseling mentioned in the law is a "permissible condition that does not pose additional restrictions on the defendant's freedom."

In denying the defendant's motion, Camacho said by allowing counseling as part of the sentence for child abuse or neglect, the Legislature is focused on rehabilitative sentencing options without requiring a suspended sentence.

Camacho said allowing counseling in child abuse or neglect cases without a suspended sentence allows the court to address the individual needs of each case.

Camacho noted that by its nature, child abuse or neglect is a crime that involves family members.

The judge said traditional punishment for convicted criminal defendants involving incarceration, retribution, or deterrence may not be able to give defendants the necessary skills needed to prevent child abuse or neglect.

Camacho said if the Legislature had intended to mandate a jury trial for the offense of child abuse or neglect, as Mailuw argues, the Legislature could have simply worked within the framework of the law and crafted a sentence such as "not more than five years and one day, or not more than $2,001, or both." ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

MAR PAC Inc.
EST. 1973

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
Marianas Pacific Distributors Inc. is looking for highly motivated and experienced individuals to work Full Time as

Graphic Artist

- Good Oral and Written Communications Skills
- Must be proficient in Adobe Photoshop & Illustrator
- Knowledge of Corel Draw & Onyx Poster Shop is a plus
- Must be able to brainstorm and mock up new design ideas
- Must be detail & deadline oriented
- Must be able to work Evenings/Overtime if needed
- Must be 18 yrs of age or older

MarPac Dist., Inc offers competitive salaries commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Applications may be picked up and submitted at the MARPAC office located in Gualo Rai Village – Deadline of submission is on Wednesday, August 24, 2016.

NO TELEPHONE CALLS PLEASE.

As condition of Employment, MARPAC requires proof of identity and eligibility to work in the CNMI. Police and Court Clearance required.

MARPAC Dist., Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer

FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN
A TanHoldings Company

is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following vacant position:

Position: Demi Chef (1)
Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent, or post secondary instruction from vocational schools. Minimum four (4) years work experience as a Demi Chef preferably in hotel. Comprehensive knowledge of kitchen hygiene practices and occupational health and safety standards is essential. Supervise and coordinates activities of kitchen operation and personnel. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Applications can be obtained at the Security Office at the Hotel's South Wing. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than Friday, August 26, 2016. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Fiesta Resort & Spa, Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

SSHS receives help from private sector

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Southern High School received more than $10,000 worth of equipment and supplies that would help school personnel in various ways. SSHS' 2015-2016 Parent-Teacher-Student Association helped make the donation of a brand new lawnmower and classroom supplies possible.

SSHS received a new lawnmower last week that would help in the maintenance of the campus grounds. The lawnmower, a Rover Kohler 7000 Series Tractor, is worth $6,000 with several partners pitching in.

PTSA president Glenna SP Reyes, who will finish her term along with other officers on Aug. 25, said the lawnmower was made possible with the help of Joeten Ace Hardware president Priscilla Tenorio, HPI, LLC, House vice speaker Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), and Rep. Antonio P. Sablan (Ind-Saipan).

Reyes said SSHS principal Martha Kintol asked for her help in trying to get a new riding lawnmower since the one that's being used had been breaking down regularly with Faustino Tmilchol, the school's maintenance personnel, having a hard time to properly do his job.

The school's riding lawnmower broke down last June when they were preparing for the graduation ceremony of Class 2015-2016. The PTSA then asked for the Division of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Public Works to prepare the grounds.

It was then that the SSHS PTSA reached to their partners to help them get a new lawnmower. "Thank you to all our partners for assisting us in providing the school the equipment needed to maintain the campus grounds for the students and school personnel," said Reyes.

Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, meanwhile, donated $4,500 worth of classroom supplies to be used by all SSHS teachers.

"Thank you to Pacifica Insurance executive vice president and general manager Shirley Sablan for their help in securing the much needed classroom supplies," said Reyes.

"I am currently coordinating with a vendor for the procurement and delivery of the supplies to help our teachers with their classroom needs, stated Reyes," she added.

The SSHS PTSA also made possible the stage that is currently being constructed with the help of E-Land Group. The project has been delayed due to unforeseen circumstances and they are expecting contractor H&H Construction to complete it next month.

The delay in construction also postponed their final project, the two wooden canopies or *pala-pala* to complement the stage. That project is separately funded by Best Sunshine International, Ltd.'s Corporate Social Responsibility 1 Team.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Rep. Antonio Sablan (Ind-Saipan), Saipan Southern High School maintenance personnel Faustino Tmichol, House vice speaker Joseph P. Deleon (Ind-Saipan) Guerrero, SSHS principal Martha Kintol, a PTSA member, and SSHS Parent-Teacher-Student Association president Glenna SP Reyes pose with the new lawnmower.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan Southern High School maintenance personnel Faustino Tmichol tries out the new lawnmower as SSHS Parent-Teacher-Student Association president Glenna SP Reyes waits for her turn.

Ordinance detonation in Marpi this Friday

The Department of Public Safety is notifying the public of an upcoming scheduled ordinance detonation scheduled for Friday, Aug. 19, 2016, at 1pm in Marpi.

DPS is advising all residents, workers, visitors, tour companies, and tour guides that Marpi will be closed on Aug. 19, 2016 at 11am, until the completion of the detonation.

Please make proper adjustments to your daily schedule on this date. Should you have any questions pertaining to this operation, please call Sgt. Anthony Macaranas, XRT Operational Supervisor, at 483-5818. ***(PR)***

WE WILL NEVER FORGET
FIELD OF HEROES
15th Anniversary of September 11th
This community event will be an opportunity for family members to honor and support our Veterans/Military Personnel, Law Enforcement Officers, Fire and 1st Responders by purchasing a 3'x5' American flag ($20), in their honor.
This community event will be hosted on all 3 of the Northern Mariana Islands (Saipan, Tinian and Rota.)
All proceed will go towards providing local support for our Veterans, Military Personnel, Law Enforcement Officers, Fire and 1st Responders in dealing with Post Traumatic Stress.
Dates to Remember:
Monday, September 5th - Sites set up
Tuesday, September 6th - Opening Ceremony
Sunday, September 11th - 9/11 Memorial Ceremony
Tuesday, September 13th - Closing Ceremony
Flags will be given to sponsored families after the closing ceremony.
Field of Heroes Site:
Saipan - CPA Airport Field
Tinian - Fiesta Grounds
Rota - Benjamin T. Manglona International Airport
Tan Siu Lin Foundation
www.tanholdings.com

976 students enrolled at Hopwood Middle School

Hopwood Middle School welcomed School Year 2016-2017 with a total of 976 students enrolled at the Afetna school along Beach Road.

Principal Jonas Barcinas said the number of students is based on Aug. 9 enrollment figures. "The enrollment continues to grow but we are ready to serve all our students in grades 6th, 7th, and 8th," he said.

Barcinas said Hopwood staff were all excited to welcome all students and their parents to the campus on opening day last Monday, Aug. 15.

"We are ready to support and guide our students toward becoming successful. In order to ensure we meet and greet all our parents, we are informing the public about our open house/meet and greet, PTSA meeting," he said.

The event that will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 24, starting 5pm in the school cafeteria. He said parents/guardians are encouraged to visit all the teachers who are in their child's team. Each grade level and subject area will be ready with their course outline and be ready to answer any parent questions.

"This is a very important orientation for all of our parents and guardians as they will be meeting with the teaching staff, PTSA leaders in order to begin several healthy dialogues to inform more about related school policies, grading system, assessments, classroom requirements, and expectations from the teachers and administration. So everyone can be well informed in order to make the school year successful and a smooth one for everyone," said Barcinas.

The Hopwood principal added teachers will be sharing other important information that parents and guardians will need to know so they can work closely to make sure their child/children are successful this school year.

For transparency, he said, a handbook will be issued to each student to share with their parents and as a requirement to gather more detailed information allow parents to review it and make sure that guides are given to address them with the school authorities and questions.

Barcinas said students can be dropped to the school campus if they are car riders at 7am at the soccer field area the same procedure as last school year.

Bus riders usually arrive between 7:30am and 8am. Walkers are encouraged to walk safely at all times when crossing the road to enter the campus. Breakfast will be served from 7am to 8:19am. First bell is at 8:20am and dismissal is at 3pm. Half day schedules, will end at 12pm, after lunch period.

Barcinas said the school uniform policy at Hopwood is mandatory for all students as students have to wear both the blue and gold color.

"This helps motivate our students to stay focus on their studies and not to be bullied because of their family financial status. Everyone will look the same regardless of their background and also it builds their pride as a school," he said.

He said this uniform policy has been very successful for the past seven years where students feel happy and they remain focus on their studies and not be distracted with the dress code non-compliance.

Barcinas added that no double shirts are allowed under their school uniform or jacket as well. The uniform is $10 each and can be purchased at the main office from Ruby Hocog. Uniforms will be available this Friday at the main office. After next week, parents and legal guardians will have to purchase additional uniforms at Island Apparel Company. ***(PR)***

Crime Stoppers book chronicles Saipan, Guam crimes

A newly published 264-page book chronicling the history of Crime Stoppers features several crimes that have occurred through the years in Guam and Saipan.

The book—*Crime Stoppers The Inside Story*—co-authored by Greg MacAleese, the founder of Crime Stoppers, and retired reporter Cal Millar, not only details how the program was formed 40 years ago in the United States, but also documents its expansion around the globe.

In the book MacAleese explains how Crime Stoppers began as an initiative in September 1976 to combat an out-of-control crime problem in Albuquerque, New Mexico, but it soon spread to other cities and towns. Today Crime Stoppers operates in more than 1,600 communities around the world.

As the crime-solving program expanded, the book tells how MacAleese was invited to the Northern Mariana Islands in 1993 to help promote fledgling Crime Stoppers programs in Guam and Saipan.

MacAleese says in the book that the visit to the area was his first official duty after being named executive director of Crime Stoppers International and described it as the highlight of the three years he spent managing Crime Stoppers global operations.

"Guam launched Crime Stoppers in 1985 and Saipan's program, known as Northern Mariana Islands Crime Stoppers, came into existence four years later," the book states. "Both were active and well run programs, but they asked me to provide broad based training for volunteers and law enforcement personnel to show how Crime Stoppers could become even more effective in solving crime. When each program began there was strong support from the police, but Guam had the benefit of a commercial television station, a regional newspaper, and a number of radio stations.

"On the other hand, Saipan didn't have the assistance of a television station to produce re-enactments and promotion was mainly generated by a small newspaper and just a few radio stations. Saipan's program even resorted to putting up Crime of the Week appeals on roadside posts, much the same as the reward posters that were tacked to trees and sides of buildings in the days of the Wild West in the Unites States."

The book recalls how Crime Stoppers played a role to thwart a robbery at Guam's Treasury Department in August 1991 and details some high profile cases, including the mysterious disappearance in Saipan of two sisters, 10-year-old Faloma Luhk and 9-year-old Meleina.

The pair vanished May 25, 2011 while waiting for a school bus outside their grandparent's home in the Santa Lourdes area of As Teo and both police and Crime Stoppers continue to appeal for information to help find them.

Authorities are also hoping to get leads on a series of unexplained murders occurring through the years, which have claimed numerous victims in Saipan's Chinese community.

The book explains that it was actually Jerry VanLancker, an agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation who brought the idea of crime Stoppers to the area while stationed in Guam. He worked with Sergeant Phil Dennis to set up the program and the book says the first tip came on Aug. 26, 1985. Since that time Crime Stoppers has solved numerous crimes, including homicides, rapes, robberies, and drug trafficking offences in the area.

"I think people will find the book a fascinating read," said MacAleese, who moved to the Philippines after retiring from the Albuquerque Police Department where he was working as a detective when he came up with the concept of Crime Stoppers.

MacAleese said he is surprised at the success of Crime Stoppers, which has solved more than 1.5 million cases, led to the arrest of almost one million suspects, been responsible for the seizure of $10 billion in illegal drugs, and netted in excess of $2 billion in stolen property.

The book, available from Amazon.com, says Crime Stoppers is recognized along with fingerprinting and DNA as the three top innovations in modern-day policing and considered one of the best anti-crime programs ever created. ***(PR)***

High surf advisory until Friday

The CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning Point has issued a high surf advisory until 7pm this Friday, Aug. 19.

Based on the information received from the National Weather Service-Tiyan Guam, fresh to strong southwest winds and combined seas of 10 to 12 feet will persist the next few days.

It also said scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are expected most of the week.

Hazardous surf of 9 to 11 feet will persist through Wednesday along west facing reefs and surf will remain hazardous through at least Friday.

Along south facing reefs, surf will be hazardous up to 9 feet through at least Wednesday.

The CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning Point A also issued a small craft advisory and it will remain in effect until 7pm this Friday.

It said southwest winds of 20 to 25 knots and combined seas of 10 to 12 feet will produce hazardous conditions for operators of Small Craft.

Acting governor Victor B. Hocog is advising the general public and inexperience mariners—especially those operating smaller vessels—to avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches especially those facing north, south, and west exposures as rip currents will be life threatening. ***(PR)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

August 17, 2000

Alternative site for Marpi rancher still uncertain

It may be impossible for public lands officials to immediately identify an alternative site for Saipan's mitigation bank that is being sought by lawmakers in a bid to avoid shutdown of cattle ranches in the Marpi forest area. Division of Public Lands Director Bertha C. Leon Guerrero said the process will entail approval of a new site by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service first and enactment into law by the Legislature. The Legislature has chosen the Marpi forest area in northern Saipan as the mitigation site to comply with the federal requirements under a law passed years ago. But the cattle has to be removed to allow the trees and the wildlife, including endangered species, to grow in the area.

CPA moves to make Tinian, Rota airports self-sufficient

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is aiming to increase the share in overall revenues of Rota and Tinian Airports to become self-sufficient within the next two years, according to Board Chair Roman S. Palacios. At present, only Saipan International Airport generates the bulk, or 96 percent of the combined airport revenues. Saipan International Airport services four international carriers and two commuter carriers offering both passenger and cargo service. Rota and Tinian Airports only serve commuter air carriers between Saipan and Guam. Over the next two to three years Rota's revenues have to be increased five fold, or $1.4 million, while Tinian's airport revenues have to be increased three-fold, or

August 17, 2004

Repeat health testing to be phased out

If plans push through, the Department of Public Health may stop requiring nonresident workers to get tested annually for various diseases, starting next year. Dr. Richard Brostrom, DPH medical director, said yesterday that the Commonwealth Health Center has conducted about 200,000 medical examinations since 1996—a significant number considering the population size in the CNMI. This is caused mainly by the requirement for nonresident workers to undergo an annual physical exam. There are over 30,000 alien workers in the CNMI. Brostrom said the department has found no benefit from repeated testing for certain diseases such as HIV, syphilis and tuberculosis, after a worker's first year of employment in the Commonwealth.

Koreans choose NMI as honeymoon destination

For many Korean honeymooners, the Northern Marianas remains their destination of choice. The Marianas Visitors Authority yesterday said many Koreans like the islands as a wedding and honeymoon destination, gracing the CNMI's campaign in the recent WEDDEX, a popular trade show in South Korea. WEDDEX targets Korean couples and honeymooners searching for destinations. The trade exhibition is held annually, with the recent one taking five days from Aug. 4 to 9. Korea remains one of the CNMI's major tourist market, with July visitors' tally reaching 7,298. The market continued to be resilient despite the pullout of Korean Airlines' direct flights between Saipan and Korea.

August 17, 2005

'Review of $5.8M sports funding needed'

The Commonwealth Development Authority is willing to entertain a $5.8-million funding request for the construction of sports facilities, but it needs time to review the request and identify a funding source, a top CDA official said yesterday. CDA board chair Tom Glenn A. Quitugua said that the agency could not readily commit to the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' request mainly because the money was not available. Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Juan L. Babauta, in his letter to CDA yesterday, asked Quitugua to respond before the Aug. 22 deadline given by the Micronesian Games Committee to the CNMI to confirm its commitment to hosting the 2006 Micronesian Games. But Quitugua said the DCCA's request must be discussed first by the concerned CDA committee and decided upon by the entire board of directors.

Chinese media groups check out NMI

The Northern Marianas recently hosted three media groups from China, as part of the Marianas Visitors Authority's efforts to increase destination awareness in the Chinese tourism market. MVA reported that a reporter, a photographer, and a model from a popular Hong Kong magazine visited Saipan and Tinian in the middle of July. The East Touch Magazine crew conducted took pictures and inspected scenic spots and historical sites in both islands. They also participated in marine and other entertainment activities and sampled the restaurants. Acquired by Global China Group Holdings Ltd. in 2002, East Touch is one of the popular Hong Kong publications targeting both male and female readers aged 16 to 28. The magazine covers stories of celebrities, entertainment news, fashion trends, and lifestyle topics.

IT&E donates $5K in cash, prizes to MINA Green Gala

IT&E
August 16, 2016
Pay to the Order of
2016 MINA GALA
$5,000.00
One Thousand five Hundred CASH + Three Thousand five Hundred In-kind
For CASH + In-kind Donation
life, motion & you!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

IT&E representatives donate $5,000 in cash and prizes to the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance as part of the Green Gala fundraising event, which will be held on Sept. 2, 2016.

To underscore its commitment to conservation efforts, IT&E recently signed on as an emerald sponsor for the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance's Green Gala, which will be held on Sept. 2, 2016.

IT&E's donation totals more than $5,000 in cash and in-kind prizes, some of which will be included in the silent auction that will be conducted at the event.

"We are extremely thankful for IT&E's contribution to this year's Green Gala," said Frankie Eliptico, chairman of MINA's board of directors. "IT&E continues to support many important community causes and we are thankful for the company's generosity."

Eliptico added the donation from IT&E will help MINA continue the work it does in protecting the environment.

"We must do everything we can to conserve the CNMI's natural resources," said Rose Soledad, IT&E general manager-Saipan. "In addition to the Green Gala, we look forward to partnering with MINA in other activities that promote environmental stewardship."

The leading conservation nonprofit organization in the Commonwealth, MINA has successfully implemented many projects, including the Obyan Rehabilitation Project, the Schools for Environmental Conservation Project, the Marine Debris Prevention program, Tasi Watch Project, the Managaha Pride campaign, and the Adopt-A-Bin Project, which has placed recycling bins at all major beaches on the island.

In order to continue its efforts to conserve and protect the CNMI's fragile environment and biodiversity, MINA is seeking the community's participation in the Green Gala. The organization is supported by project grants and from generous contributions from local businesses and community members.

In addition to lively entertainment, dinner and a variety of beverages, the Green Gala will feature brief highlights from MINA's projects, a silent auction, and many other activities that promises a memorable evening.

The last Green Gala was sold out, so organizers are encouraging those who plan to attend to buy their tickets early. Tickets for the Green Gala event can be purchased at the MINA Office in Gualo Rai or from any of the volunteer board members.

There are four categories of sponsorship (Emerald, Title, Major, and Event categories) that correspond to the value of companies' contribution. To become a sponsor of the Green Gala, contact 233-REEF. ***(PR)***

UOG hosts free small business Energy Audit Workshop

A free Energy Audit Workshop for small businesses will be held on Aug. 22, from 9am to 12 noon in Rm. 129 of the Jesus & Eugenia Leon Guerrero Business and Public Administration Building on the University of Guam campus.

Conducted by the University of Guam Center for Island Sustainability (CIS) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the workshop is intended to provide small businesses the opportunity to learn about what an energy audit entails, and how the USDA's Rural Energy for American Program (REAP) can help fund the implementation of the audit's recommendations.

» Learn how small businesses can save 75 pct on audit costs and receive funding for business upgrades.

CIS received a grant under REAP to conduct energy audits for small local businesses at a 75 percent discount. In addition to providing the majority of audit costs, the USDA's REAP program can provide additional funding for the energy efficiency upgrades and renewable energy systems.

For more information or to register online, visit ww.uog.edu/cis. Additional information is also available by calling Phil Cruz at 735-2918 or emailing philipcruz@triton.uog.edu. ***(PR)***

Saipan Tribune Make it your DAILY habit.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-020

ROTA WATER SUPPLY PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Rota Water Supply Project, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of the demolition of existing bldg. structure, fence, pipes, valves, including appurtenances, installation of new 6-inch, 8-inch, & 10-inch PVC water line complete with necessary valves and fittings, construction of new three wells bldg., chlorination building, booster pump building, the relocation and replacement of two existing pressure reducing valves (PRV's), the installation of a new PRV, and several reconfigurations of the existing water system.

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on August 25, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST) at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-16-020, Rota Water Supply Project"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 14, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on August 29, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John Riegel, CUC Chief Engineer-Water/Wastewater-john.riegel@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Support Assistant– marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

JAMES SIROK
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-022

LIFT STATION RENOVATION PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Lift Station Renovation Project in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project consists of the renovation and upgrade of the S-6, S-10, SR-1, and A-7 Sewer Lift Stations.

The work shall be done not to disrupt the daily operation of the sewer discharge. The work includes rehabilitation of wet wells, valve vaults, a bar screen and flow monitor vault, removal of existing pumps, pipes, fittings and appurtenances, installation of new pumps, guide rails, control panels, pipes and fittings, installation of a new fence and gate, the installation and operation of a temporary wastewater bypass system, and other related work.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and CUC. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the project to be completed in **365 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **August 30, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.7, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

ONE (1) original and FIVE (5) hard copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-16-022, Lift Station Renovation"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 16, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.
Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract may be contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) approval. If CPUC approval is required, the contract will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 1, 2016** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John Riegel, W/WW Chief Engineer via email address-john.riegel@cucgov.org, Nicolette Villagomez , W/WW Junior Engineer via email address-nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org, Birhen Martinez, W/WW Senior Engineer via email address-birhen.martinez@cucgov.org and Ms. Marcela Tenorio, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant via email address – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

JAMES SIROK
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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EDITORIAL

Are churches being muzzled?

In an attempt to cement support from conservative Christians, Donald ("I love the evangelicals!") Trump has been promising to seek the repeal of a law that prohibits members of the clergy from endorsing political candidates from the pulpit. "You've been silenced," Trump told 700 pastors and their spouses last week. But he promised that "we're going to get your voice back."

Trump is wrong. The restrictions imposed on churches by the law — which also apply to secular tax-exempt organizations — don't prevent them from speaking out about political issues; it simply prohibits them from endorsing or opposing candidates. And even that restriction has been lightly enforced by the Internal Revenue Service, to the benefit of both political parties.

The target of Trump's criticism is the Johnson Amendment, which was added to the tax code in 1954 at the behest of then-Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson. The amendment prohibits so-called 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organizations, secular and religious alike, from participating in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office.

The amendment doesn't prevent priests, rabbis or other members of the clergy from sermonizing about political issues from poverty to climate change to terrorism, nor does it prohibit them from endorsing candidates in their personal capacities. Rather, it says to churches and other nonprofits that if they seek the benefits of tax-exempt status — which can be worth millions of dollars — they must refrain from a subset of political speech. The underlying principle is that when taxpayers provide a financial benefit to charitable organizations (including religious ones), they shouldn't be asked to subsidize political views with which they might disagree.

Nevertheless, many religious leaders — particularly politically conservative evangelicals — have railed against the restrictions as a violation of their 1st Amendment rights. The Republican convention that nominated Trump also approved a platform that calls for the repeal of the Johnson Amendment.

Some argue that repealing the amendment wouldn't make much difference because the IRS isn't aggressively enforcing it. Others note that most members of the clergy abide by the restrictions. A survey published earlier this month by the Pew Research Center on Religion and Public Life found that 14 percent of frequent churchgoers reported hearing clergy speak in favor or against a presidential candidate in recent months.

But even if the rule is mostly being observed, repealing it could embolden more priests and preachers to turn religious services into campaign rallies.

Moreover, at a time when the Supreme Court has equated political speech with spending on elections, churches and other religious organizations might be tempted to involve themselves even more in the political process, and the collection plate could become a conduit for political contributions. The Johnson Amendment should remain on the books, and it should be enforced.

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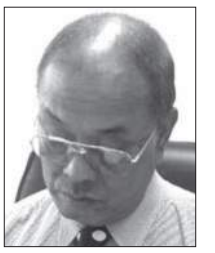
Disintunau Na Sunidu

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

Asolas, ma-annunsia na esta mas guaha adelantu gi ekonomia. Supin tasi `nai mañgekuentus kulan mohon inosienti i publiku haf` masusesedi.

I kuestion: Kau ennau na adelantu gaige gi monedan familia pa`gu? Haf` mas diberas ke pinadesin familia gi enteru iya Marianas?

Dispues, mas ke lamita sueddun chinatsaga (federal poverty income level) gi empleau enteru ya para in` sigi ha` tumalañga i publiku? Haf` mohon ya finu` integredat na biahe?

Yangin i intension pot eskusu, chatmiyu fan malelefa na kada unu gi membron familia gai estomagu. `Nai mamadedesi pot sapet tinanahuñg para mantension niha ni kuantu na annunsiu ni unu siña tumulaika haf` ume`esalau ginen estomagun i tautau siha!

Na ti magahet na esta pot mas ke 20 años taya` hatsadan sueddun i tautau siha? Kau pot este na diskuidu na kada ratu in` sablasus i publiku pot adelantu ni taigue gi pottanmonedan familia? Hombre, ti nigap ham `nai man-mafañagu!

Oran estrakadan politika

Gi tutuhon este na biahen estrakadan politika, `nos kuantos manhalum tatte gi pattidan republican lau memegaiña man-huyuñg. Dañkulu este na indikasion na ma`pi` i inetnun republican desde maposña na semana.

Mapgau i tropa: Guaha pa`gu Raffy na republican yan i hagas republican ni mampos man-inaminasa ni kabron na kinalamten i tropan i paire. Kasi nuebu na areglun disareglu! I man-malalagu na republican kada kuat kunsu kuat. Dios mihu!

Dispues man-asoda` mansabiu gi lugat kafe `nai kada unu ha sañgan pot kandidatuña. Ilegña i unu, "I kandidatuhu ni haf` bidaña ayu na malalagu ta`lu".

Ineppe ni otru, "Ke i tai bidaña i tronu ni para u pinateg huyuñg na eleksion!" Dios tiampare na hunta.

Ti mapot ta pula` i madisgranan republican: mampos mañgontentu ni fuetsan niha ya manmalefa na gaige gi señgsoñg i tautau siha ni ma-upus pot madaña`e man-riku na kometsiante. Manmalefa haye siha pumega guihe na puestu.

I para un` malefa ni publiku un` dañkulu na insuttu gi tautau ni pumega inañgoghon niha giya hagu. Mafattu tatte un` kuestion pa`gu na biahe: Haf` che`cho`mu para un` adelanta ha`anen niha? Na la-agañg ineppe-mu sa` mampos ñañgun!

Gi halum este na estrakada guaha u fañguentos (ahe` ti edukau na adiñgan) kulan pale` totut. Guaha lokue` siempre lumapbla hila` niha gi asuntu ni ti makomprende ni mana` linimus manadan "biba".

Kasi patte gi afulu` haye mas tarugu` yan dakun. Yangin desde tutuhon tai abilidat hau umekuñgog kabales sentimentun publiku, pues lastima kareramu na biahe.

Yangin para un` hasñgune cha`mu malelefa na ti nigap ham `nai man-mafañagu! Haf` mohon? Lau ta pasensiaye sa` estague` un` patte gi sisteman demokrasia na gobietnu—estrakada!

Fitme Na Kabayeros

Kontentu siñienteghu `nai huli`e man-anchu na ekspirensian nos kuantos kandidatu ni mañaunau na biahen eleksion para i lehislatura. Desde as Heinz Hofschneider, Antonio (Tony) M. Camacho, Ana S. Teregeyo yan Stanley Torres na tropan kabeyeros mangaige na`an niha.

Gi finu` niha esta nahuñg na kinalamten sin planu. Ti manlistu lumi`e galaide` Marianas masotta sin kapitan para u esgaihon hinanau-ta halum gi safu na puettu. Oran areglu! Guaha dañkulu inañguhoghu nu este siha na kabayeros. Huli`e fotmat che`chu` niha desde antes. Maila` tafan mama` i edut ke hapacha`.

Hana` katma siñienteghu i guaha manatma na grupu ni siña rumeskata i linala` tautau-ta siha antes u fañogñug petmanente gi sisonyan diskuidu. Presisu na tana` seguru na manhalum pot nessesidat areglun tano`ta!

Signifikasion Tinilaika

Finapos modun linala` desde finagpu` geran dos dañkulu na tinilaika. Makat ta bira hit tatte gi tradision na modun linala`ta. Mampos ti umafagcha` yan i gaige na sistema ni maplanta desde ayu na tiempu. Matulaika kinalamten-ta desde tradision natibu esta guatu gi ekonomian salape`.

I gaige na sistema presisu na ta estudiaye haf` minetgotña gi ma-adelantan kualidat linala` natibu. Mampos te`ug na asuntu ya solu ta atetuye chadeg kumomprende haf` guaha `nai siña ta pula` karera-ta para mona.

Ti hita solu man-inaminasa nu este na tinilaika. Todu islas giya Pasifiku pumadedesi maliñgun tradision modun linala` natibu.

Un` sumen afamau na professot ni madisponi gi alacha umapunta este huyuñg na pasun tautau isla siha. Konfotmiyu` lamayot patte pot taya` otru para tulaikan i gaige na sistema. Yangin metgot i tradision pues megaiña gi entre hita manguagualu`. Lau lamayot mangaige gi moseria.

Gi todu estrakadan i presenti `nai ta gobietnan mamaisa hit ti baba bes enkuandu ta hahassu i dignun natibu gi todu pinetsige. Soluke gaige fitme dignota gi papa` sinturata `nai siña kabales magahet tana oppan na siña ta gobietnan maisa hit.

Gi mismu tiempu ti u na`lu tatte tradisionat na modun linala`ta. Kulan buttu gi espehos santatte ni adumididi` maliñgu `nai esta na upus.

Hinemlu` Natibu

Esta i nieta-hu kumeke binaya` materiat siha pot daibites yan chenot korason ni huna hananague kada semana. Layeye pot ansianu-yu` lokue lumi`e na un` dia ta tutuhon edukasion publiku haf` taimanu `nai siña ta ayudan maisa hit.

Listuyu` man-ayuda dibatde nu este na asuntu. Tat mas propiu ke mapribenin chenot ke `nai esta sala`. I umatisa interes-hu `nai umadiñgan-yu` yan mediku-hu korason dispues de ma-opera-yu`. Ilegña na taigue problema-hu gi modun linala`hu soluke ke gaige gi haga`hu. Ha pañgun-yu` ayu na finu` mediku.

I kuestion: Kau establisau na gaige chenot korason yan daibites gi haga` natibu? Haye gi halum apuyidun natibu `nai gaige este probleman korason? Kau siña makondukta un` estudiu pot konfitmasion yan haf` na remediu guaha para proteksion niha?

Gi chenot daibites komprendiyun i inipus na usun asukat ni sumaunau muna` fatsu fuñgsion parahiyan tautau. Gigon masusedi este pues ti siña tatautau-ta ha usa naturat na asukat (insulin) pot para umana` mamtu` kinano`ta.

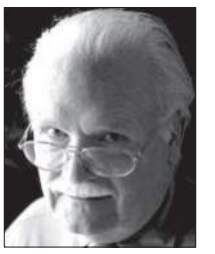
I otru `nai umayunat tatautau haga`ta (red cells or corpuscles) naturat na asukat. Estague` otru tumucha mafañagun daibites. Lau masoda` na i manchichipa marijuana muna`lu tatte haga` niha mañochu naturat na asukat. Siña ha` ti konfotme hau as Mary Jane lau atan pot benefisiun hinemlu`.

Debi depattamentun hinemlu` u choneg ensegidas fina` estudiu pot para ta ketuñgu gi hilu` konfitmau na estudiu kau magahet na gaige gi haga` natibu probleman parehu ha` korason yan daibites. Bula fondun programan federat ni siña ta gagau para este na estudiu.

If Trump and Clinton both hate them, can the media be all bad?

By ANDREW MALCOLM
Special to McClatchy

Andrew Malcolm is an author and veteran national and foreign correspondent covering politics since the 1960s. Follow him on Twitter @AHMalcolm.



In the early hours of D-Day 1944, the Allies landed 156,000 troops on the beaches of France, spelling doom for the Third Reich. In Berlin, 756 miles away, night-owl Adolf Hitler slept peacefully through the largest invasion in history. No aide dared awaken the boss with such bad news.

Being a messenger can indeed be unpopular, even dangerous. Ask any member of the modern-day political media covering a most bizarre presidential race. Neither side, nor much of the audience, likes or helps the battered fourth estate do its prescribed constitutional job of political-information purveyor.

Hillary Clinton grants very little access to the press pack covering her, even prohibits cameras filming her boarding the private jet she prefers over a campaign charter.

Donald Trump uses media denunciations as regular speech applause lines, calling some reporters names, mocking their handicap or their questions. He's even banned certain news organizations from rallies, a counterproductive move for a billionaire who boasts of running a campaign largely on free media.

A half-century ago, criticism of the media focused on its penchant for bad news. Hence, Vice President Spiro Agnew's resonant line about "nattering nabobs of negativism."

To be honest, that is pretty much the definition of news; few would read or watch coverage of 150,000 safe airplane landings each day. Neighbors don't gossip about the loving couple with two perfect children who make their mortgage payments on time.

Today is different. The internet created countless competitors for traditional media and countless forums for news consumers to compare reports and share perceived biases. Suspicion of media is rife and rampant.

My experience has taught that media has a built-in bias, less through what it does cover than what it does not cover. Clinton, for instance, escaped much 24/7 exposure over Benghazi because the media tired of it. You won't hear much about the nation's ongoing homeless crisis until several months into the next Republican administration, when editors think to examine it.

Chris Stirewalt of Fox News nailed it the other day, in my opinion:

"The media slants left. It's not because of a conspiracy, but rather accidents of demography and career choices. Reporters don't become liberal because of what they do, but rather it's that the people who become reporters tend to be from subcultures that see the world from the left."

Many years ago, journalists were attracted to the profession by the excitement of chasing and telling a story. Now, it seems, there's more interest in righting a perceived wrong, fixing a part of society, a liberal proclivity.

At times I've described media bias to intelligent liberal friends. They don't see it. They can't see it. It's like asking a fish what water tastes like. That environment is all it's ever known.

And journalism since Watergate's dramatic covert coverage has more often rewarded activist writing with fame and even some fortune.

In fairness, politicians also use media to keep their side united against a common enemy: Them. In this sense, Clinton and Trump campaigns are the same except her staff members largely keep their media hostility to themselves.

Trump et al flout their news confrontations, including physical measures. In recent remarks Trump lumps in media as part of the rigged election process he's formulating to explain his potential loss, since such an event could never be his fault.

Trump is indeed a master media manipulator, thanks in large part to his show biz experience. Actor Ronald Reagan also knew how to play to the camera.

In the primaries Trump skillfully created his own news to drown out competition. He's trying the same now with just one major opponent.

But inexplicably the Republican nominee's manipulations more often help Democrat Clinton by drowning out her negative news while embroiling Trump in distracting controversies that damage what should be his efforts at broadening his support.

Truth is, distaste for media is always latent in an American psyche that generally disdains authority.

My first New York Times assignment included answering newsroom phones. Early one spring morning in 1968, I took a call from a woman with a story tip. A big one, she said. But she was uncertain she could trust me until I pointed out she'd called me.

Cautiously, the woman relented. "You know the John F. Kennedy aircraft carrier?" Yes, I said, it was launched the previous year.

"Right!" she said angrily. "Well, where is it now?"

I confessed ignorance on the exact location of the 82,000-ton ship. "See?" she said. "A brand-new aircraft carrier just disappears and your newspaper doesn't care!"

I tried to explain that simply because a Times news assistant was unaware of the ship's location, didn't mean the craft had actually disappeared.

The woman grew angrier at my skepticism. "You, you medias," she screamed and hung up.

In case that caller reads this, the carrier known as "Big John" was on Mediterranean patrol at that time. Today, after a 40-year tour of duty she rides gently, decommissioned, in the Philadelphia harbor.

The shame of Milwaukee

By JESSE JACKSON
Tribune News Service

You can write to the Rev. Jesse Jackson in care of this newspaper or by email at jjackson@rainbowpush.org. Follow him on Twitter @RevJJackson.

Now it is Milwaukee. On Saturday, a car with two African-American men was stopped for "suspicion." The men fled, the policeman pursued, and the driver, reportedly armed, was shot and killed.

And Milwaukee exploded. Angry crowds confronted police, set fires, threw rocks. At least half-dozen businesses — including a grocery store, a gas station and an auto parts shop — were robbed or destroyed. The Saturday shooting was part of a weekend filled with violence in Milwaukee. Five people were shot and killed overnight Friday.

Milwaukee law mandates an investigation of any police shooting. Immediately, focus goes to the harsh relations between police and the community. But to understand the reaction to the shooting, it is necessary to go much deeper.

This city is "a powder keg," Alderman Khalif Rainey told The Washington Post. "This entire community has sat back and witnessed how Milwaukee, Wis., has become the worst place to live for African-Americans in the entire country. Now this is a warning cry. … Do we continue — continue with the inequities, the injustice, the unemployment, the undereducation…? The black people of Milwaukee are tired. They're tired of living under this oppression. This is their existence. This is their life. This is the life of their children."

An exaggeration? An excuse for rioters? Inflated rhetoric? Consider Milwaukee's stark realities.

Milwaukee is the most segregated city in the United States. Black household income is the third lowest in the U.S. Its black poverty rate is the highest in the US.

These are figures presented in a haunting and damning 2015 report, "The Shame of Milwaukee: Race, Segregation and Inequality," by Marc V. Levine of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

The data show a black population segregated into neighborhoods of concentrated poverty with declining prospects. Real black household income in 1979 was $39,105; in 2013 it was $27,438, a foul decline of nearly 30 percent. Household income for all races in Milwaukee has declined over the course of this century, but far worse for blacks and Hispanics than whites.

Nearly 40 percent of African-Americans are in poverty, up from 27 percent in 1969. Nearly 40 percent of African-Americans in the core working age (25-54) are unemployed. This is in stunning contrast to the 15.2 percent black unemployment rate in 1970. For males aged 20-24, the beginning of a work life, over two-thirds of blacks are unemployed — 68.4 percent — a staggering increase from 25.3 percent in 1970.

Schools are doubly segregated by race and by poverty. Seventy-one percent of black students attend "hyper-segregated schools" — those in which at least 9 of 10 students are minority. Nearly half of all black students go to schools with 90 percent poverty rates.

In 1963, Dr. Martin Luther King launched the modern civil rights movement in Birmingham, Ala., saying, "Birmingham is probably the most thoroughly segregated city in the United States. I am in Birmingham because injustice is here."

Well, the injustice is worse in modern Milwaukee than it was in segregated Birmingham. Black poverty, unemployment and impoverished neighborhoods are all worse. The percentage of blacks attending hyper-segregated schools in today's Milwaukee is far worse than the Jim Crow schools of Birmingham (71 percent to 56 percent).

This is, as Alderman Rainey stated, a powder keg. Police are tasked with "keeping order." That is like trying to stop a seething volcano from exploding by suppressing the gases coming out the top. Even doing that skillfully won't work.

Milwaukee is not the worst. Black income has plummeted more in Cleveland and Detroit. School segregation is worse in New York and Chicago. Violence stalks the mean streets of impoverished urban neighborhoods across the country.

And this obscene injustice gets worse with no action and little notice. The poor, the New York Times reports, are barely mentioned by either presidential candidate. And they are largely ignored by the media. On Saturday and Sunday, riots occurred in Milwaukee, a major American city. That didn't make front page of the Monday New York Times, which led with stories above the fold about a Trump adviser, liberal worries about Hillary Clinton and malaria in Venezuela.

In Birmingham, Dr. King's cry against the injustice of segregation touched the conscience of concerned citizens across the country. Will anyone hear the cry of the north side of Milwaukee, or the south side of Chicago? Or will our cities have to explode before action replaces neglect?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Voting for Saipan casino was not selfish

This letter is in response to the John S. DelRosario Jr.'s op-ed piece "2016 Summertime Blues" that was published in the *Saipan Tribune* last Aug. 5, 2016. Readers should know that I respect and admire Senot DelRosario's op-ed pieces especially those he writes in Chamorro. I always hope they will inspire others to write in the indigenous languages spoken here in the CNMI. Every writer is entitled to their own opinion but writers need to be careful with their use of or misuse of facts and information. They are not entitled to make up their own facts.

Sen. Francisco Borja and Lt. Gov. Biktot Hocog know full well and knew full well "the comparative advantages Saipan has over Tinian" which DelRosario referred to when they voted for a casino on Saipan. Nobel prize winning economist, Daniel Kahneman, in his 2011 book, "Thinking, Fast and Slow" refers to work on primes that guide us done by psychologist Kathleen Vohs. The priming effect according to Kahneman, "suggests that living in a culture that surrounds us with reminders of money may shape our behavior and our attitudes in ways that we do not know about and of which we may not be proud." I am proud to have known Lt. Gov. Hocog and Senator Borja for more than 30 years. Despite Senot DelRosario's denigrating remarks about both gentlemen their constituents on Tinian and Luta love them and have shown respect for them in election after election.

Would Senot DelRosario like to return the multimillions of dollars BSI has pumped into the CNMI economy BEFORE their hotel and casino have even opened? Both new casino investments on Tinian are off the ground contrary to his remarks. The votes for a Saipan casino by the respective gentlemen from Tinian and Luta provide benefits for the entire CNMI. If they had voted against it would DelRosario have written they were selfish by keeping casinos only on Tinian and Rota?

He also seems to object to them reaching out to constituents on the mainland and eating in restaurants ("elite culture"). What is wrong with that? Many groups, civic, governmental, friends, families, join together in fellowship and share meals with each other both at home and in public places. Surely he can't be proud of objecting to this prime profound manner of living. Isn't it a well loved and well integrated part of Chamorro, Carolinian, and island culture. Biba Sen. Anke Borja! Biba Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog! Yan Biba gayera lokkue! Si Joey (Pepe Batbon) Connolly, Tinian.

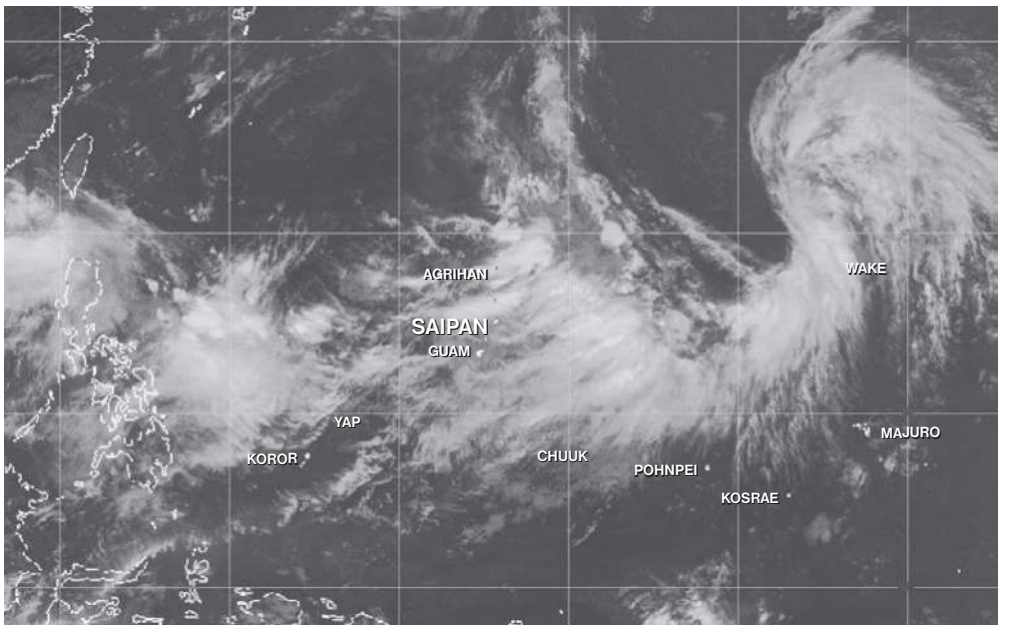
Joseph B. Connolly
Tinian

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southwest winds 15 to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southwest winds 15 to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy and breezy. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Partly sunny and breezy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly sunny and breezy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲85° ▼75°	▲85° ▼75°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:28 AM, TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

No changes made to the forecast. Radar imagery this morning showed scattered showers spreading across the local area. Yesterday the showers were diminishing during the morning. Today, around sunrise, the shower coverage seemed to be increasing. Scattered showers will prevail at least for part of the day. While lightning was not seen or detected this early this morning a few strokes were noted west of the forecast area just after sunrise. Isolated thunderstorms are possible today. Models continue to show an active monsoon trough centered just north of the local area. Multiple circulations will develop along this trough during the week. These circulations will help keep scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over the Marianas through at least Friday night.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▼ ▲
Guam and Rota	Tons of rain	76 / 81 °F
Palau	Mostly cloudy	80 / 88 °F
Yap	Cloudy	79 / 86 °F
Chuuk	Cloudy	80 / 89 °F
Pohnpei	Partly cloudy	75 / 87 °F
Kosrae	Partly cloudy	80 / 87 °F
Majuro	Morning clouds	83 / 87 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE		▼ ▲
Auckland	Mostly sunny	44 / 58 °F
Beijing	Afternoon clouds	67 / 79 °F
Hong Kong	Mostly cloudy	80 / 87 °F
Honolulu	Partly cloudy	73 / 82 °F
London	Sunny	58 / 74 °F
Los Angeles	Sunny	64 / 89 °F
Manila	Heavy rain	80 / 85 °F
Melbourne	Partly cloudy	51 / 58 °F
Miami	Partly cloudy	82 / 88 °F
New York	Partly sunny	79 / 87 °F
Osaka	Morning clouds	77 / 90 °F
Paris	Morning clouds	64 / 87 °F
Pusan	Partly cloudy	77 / 89 °F
Rome	Partly cloudy	66 / 85 °F
Salem	Sunny	56 / 87 °F
San Francisco	Morning clouds	56 / 69 °F
Seoul	Morning clouds	74 / 91 °F
Tokyo	Cloudy	78 / 87 °F
Washington, DC	Partly sunny	76 / 94 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
12:45 AM	LOW TIDE	1.03 Feet
5:57 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.9 Feet
1:08 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.23 Feet
7:51 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.89 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:03 AM	6:39 PM
Thursday	6:03 AM	6:39 PM
Friday	6:03 AM	6:38 PM
Saturday	6:03 AM	6:37 PM
Sunday	6:03 AM	6:37 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	5:41 PM	4:37 AM
Thursday	6:30 PM	5:34 AM
Friday	7:18 PM	6:31 AM
Saturday	8:06 PM	7:29 AM
Sunday	8:53 PM	8:26 AM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 10, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily
OZ6063	5:15pm	8:35pm	4, 7

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ6053	10:35am	4:05pm	4, 7
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/2925	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

UOG alumnus accepted into nationally ranked med school

University of Guam alumnus Keith Sablan has started his first year of medical school at the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM).

Sablan, who graduated from UOG in 2010 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology, in June completed the JABSOM Imi Ho'ola Post Baccalaureate Program—a highly competitive 12-month program funded by the Department of Native Hawaiian Health that is used to feed students into the School of Medicine.

Upon successful completion of the program, students are offered an automatic seat in the upcoming cohort at the John A. Burns School of Medicine, and out of the 12 students in the Imi Ho'ola Program, Sablan was one of eight accepted into the prestigious medical school.

"It's just always been a knee-jerk reaction to say I want to be a doctor," Sablan said. "I like science, and I do like giving back to the community. I get joy out of helping someone else."

Sablan said that the biology program at the University of Guam aligns its curriculum with pre-medical school requirements, which helps students who want to eventually enter into that field. And with a group of helpful professors like Dr. Kate Moots, Dr. Naushadalli Suleman, and the late Dr. Lynn Raulerson, Sablan said he felt prepared to move on to the next step in his dream.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

First year medical student and UOG alumnus Keith Sablan celebrates during the white coat ceremony at the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine. From left, dean of the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine Dr. Jerris Hedges, Keith Sablan, and director of the Imi Ho'ola Post Baccalaureate Program Dr. Winona Lee.

"Keith is just a prime example of what the Biology program has become for many of our pre-med students," said Dr. Lee Yudin, Dean of the UOG College of Natural and Applied Sciences (CNAS). "Students can get a great undergraduate education in Biology under CNAS and pursue a medical degree, graduate degree or teaching pathway into STEM education. Not only did Keith have the grades he also has the heart to become a fine young doctor one day."

The John A. Burns School of Medicine ranks in the top 20 best graduate schools in the nation in primary care and for the past three years, ranked number one in National Institutes of Health research awards among community-based public medical schools. ***(PR)***

UOG names Jenson as director of WERI

The University of Guam has appointed Dr. John Jenson as the new director of its Water and Environmental Research Institute of the Western Pacific.

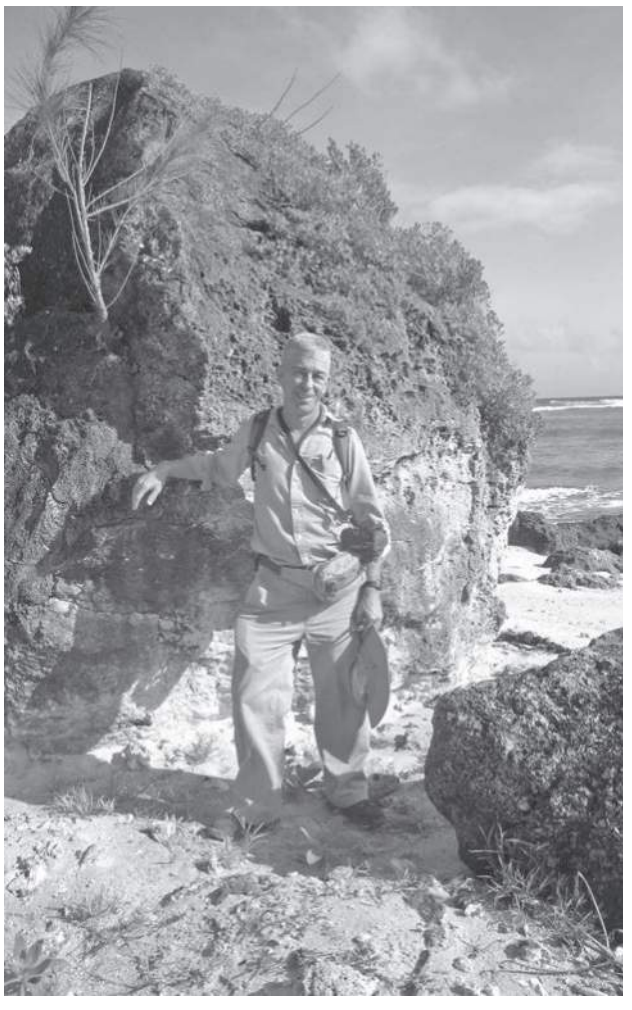
Jenson, who replaces Dr. Sharam Khosrowpanah, will begin his appointment on Oct. 1. Khosrowpanah was recently named the interim dean of the School of Engineering.

"WERI is blessed with extraordinary scientific talent and a great tradition of teamwork among its faculty, staff, and student research assistants—and I mean not only internal teamwork but teamwork with the rest of UOG and partner agencies on Guam, CNMI, and FSM, as well," Jenson said. "All I really have to do, like those that have gone before me, is to empower all of that talent and continue to foster the teamwork."

For the last 23 years, Jenson has served as a professor of environmental geology at UOG and a hydrogeologist at WERI.His research, which focuses on the applied and fundamental aspects of island groundwater hydrology and related environmental science, has led to work like assessing newly-drilled and rehabilitated wells, rehabilitating long out-of-service-wells, and identifying new sites for production wells in Guam.

Jenson earned a Master's in Applied Economics from the University of Michigan in 1976 and a Ph.D. in Geology from Oregon State University in 1993.

For more information about WERI, visit www.weriguam.org. ***(PR)***



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dr. John Jenson has been appointed the new director of its Water and Environmental Research Institute of the Western Pacific.

Regional energy regulators address challenges

NUKU'ALOFA, Tonga—Independent and transparent energy regulation plays a critical role in creating an enabling environment for the transition to a greener energy economy, especially in light of the ambitious renewable energy and energy efficiency targets of Pacific Island countries as part of the Paris Agreement process and towards achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 7) of ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

This was one of the key messages emerging from the weeklong training for Energy Regulators that recently concluded in Nuku'alofa, Tonga.

The training was a collaboration between the Pacific Community (SPC), Tonga Electricity Commission and the Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communication (MEIDECC) through the NZ-SPC South-South Cooperation for capacity building in the Pacific.

Energy regulators aim to encourage competition, prevent restrictive trade practices, ensure consumer protection, and undertake pricing of public utilities and other price controlled items.

This training provided an opportunity for energy regulators from the Pacific region to share experiences and discuss ways of strengthening the capacity of each other's institutions to effectively and independently provide an oversight to their respective energy sectors in terms of prices, practices and standards.

"We want to see new technology used, new ideas used and what we want is innovation," Tonga Electricity Commission Chairman, Rt. Hon. Ramsay Dalgety, said in his opening address at the workshop earlier this week.

"Some countries (regulatory system) are still government owned and others are set up and have regulatory functions but whatever they do, like tariffs and pricing, is subject to cabinet approval. So again, that's not independent regulation. If a country wants to go down the path of keeping it under political control, that is their right, but the whole idea here is to get each country to have its own system that suits them," Dalgety, said.

The training highlighted the need to review legislation to give energy regulators their independence, the importance of transparency, and coordination of the different government departments that look after pricing and safety.

In some countries, pricing of petroleum is overseen by one agency and safety inspection is carried out by another.

"Energy regulators will have to set a price that would give a level of confidence to investors, service providers and donors to do business in renewable energy and energy efficiency in Pacific Island countries and territories. The regulators would ensure that inefficiencies of the service providers are not passed to consumers and that the infrastructure of the service providers meet certain standards in terms of safety, including resilience to natural disasters," SPC Deputy Director for Energy, Solomone Fifita stated.

Recent cyclones like Ian in Tonga (2014), Maysek in FSM (2015), Pam in Vanuatu (2015) and Winston in Fiji (2016) significantly damaged energy infrastructure and therefore regulated specifications and standards to climate proof the energy sector of Pacific Island countries are needed.

Furthermore, reported deaths from electrocution and the recent incident at the petroleum storage in Apia, Samoa serve as reminders that safety is non-negotiable in the energy sector.

Capacity building was also highlighted as a critical need for regulators.

"I am happy to see that the purpose of this workshop is to strengthen the capacity of energy regulators in Pacific Island countries and territories to effectively and independently provide an oversight to the regulation of tariffs, as well as regulation of energy services in a transparent and accountable manner. It will certainly help Tonga and other Pacific Island countries in our joint-quest in transitioning to a greener economy," Tonga's Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communication (MEIDECC), Paula Pouvalu Ma'u, said.

The training ran simultaneously with the 25th Annual Pacific Power Association's Conference and Trade Exhibition. ***(PR)***

Business

Tesla: Removal of 'Autopilot' from Chinese site a mistake

AP

In this April 25, 2016, file photo, visitors look at a Tesla Model S electric car on display at the Beijing International Automotive Exhibition in Beijing.

PALO ALTO, Calif. (AP)—Tesla said Monday that the term "Autopilot" was mistakenly removed from the electric car maker's website for China, but it has been restored.

The company said it did revise some language on the site to make it clearer to drivers that Autopilot is a driver-assist system and not a self-driving system.

Tesla has been under pressure to stop using the term Autopilot in the U.S. following the death of an Ohio tech company owner in a Florida crash involving the system. Last week, a driver in Beijing relying on Autopilot mode sideswiped a car parked on the side of the road. Tesla says the driver's hands weren't detected on the steering wheel during the crash. The company says drivers using Autopilot must keep their hands on the wheel and be ready to take over.

Revisions to the language on websites have been under way for weeks to address "discrepancies across languages," the Palo Alto, California, company said in a statement. The timing had nothing to do with current events or articles, and Tesla has no plans to remove any references to Autopilot from any website, spokeswoman Khobi Brooklyn said.

Tesla's Autopilot system uses cameras, radar and computers to detect objects and automatically brake if the car is about to hit something. It also can steer the car to keep it centered in its lane. The company says that before Autopilot can be used, drivers must acknowledge that it's an "assist feature."

In July, Consumer Reports magazine said the company should drop the name because it gives car owners too much trust in their car's ability to drive itself.

The influential magazine also said that Tesla should disconnect the automatic steering system until it's updated to make sure a driver's hands are on the wheel at all times. Tesla's system currently warns drivers after a few minutes of their hands being off the wheel.

At the time, Tesla said data it collects show drivers who use Autopilot are safer than those who don't.

China working on growth initiative for economy summit

BEIJING (AP)—China will propose a joint initiative to revive weak global growth at next month's meeting of leaders of Group of 20 major economies amid rising protectionist sentiment in the United States and Europe, officials said Monday.

Speaking at a news conference, a senior Chinese diplomat made clear Beijing wants the Sept. 4-5 meeting to avoid political issues such as its territorial disputes with its neighbors in the South China Sea.

The meeting in the eastern Chinese city of Hangzhou comes as an unusually weak global economic recovery is helping to fuel the popularity of U.S. and European political movements that advocate protection for local industries.

Details of Beijing's proposal still are being worked out but will include reforms aimed at strengthening the global financial system and promoting technological innovation, said the Chinese finance and foreign affairs officials.

They gave no indication it might include an economic stimulus. Some investors have expected such a measure but officials at two previous G20 gatherings this year said the timing was wrong, because individual economies face different conditions and need to take actions tailored to their own needs.

The proposal will stress "inclusive growth" to spread economic benefits widely and shore up support for free trade, said a deputy finance minister, Zhu Guangyao. He said governments should be on "high alert" to "anti-globalization" sentiments.

"If the people cannot feel the benefits, then this sort of development cannot truly improve people's lives, and people will have mixed feelings about such development," he said.

A deputy foreign minister, Li Baoding, made clear China wants to avoid sensitive diplomatic issues.

The consensus among members is to "focus on economic development and not be distracted by other parties," Li said when asked about territorial disputes in the South China Sea.

"The Hangzhou summit must focus on economic issues," said Li. "This is what people want to talk about most at the summit."

Li gave similar responses to questions about China's resolute opposition to South Korea's deployment of a U.S. missile defense system.

German central bank suggests raising retirement age to 69

BERLIN (AP)—Germany's central bank is arguing that the country's retirement age should ultimately be lifted another two years to 69, a call that received a frosty response from the government.

The government decided a decade ago to raise the retirement age from 65 to 67. The increase is being introduced gradually and will apply to all retirees by 2029.

Since then, there have been periodic calls for people in Europe's biggest economy to work even longer. In its monthly report Monday, the Bundesbank said consideration should be given to raising the retirement age to around 69 by 2060 to make sure the pension system is viable as the population ages.

Chancellor Angela Merkel's spokesman, Steffen Seibert, said that the government "stands by retirement at 67."

The Bundesbank said that demographic trends are such that the average age in German society will continue to rise, which will put greater stress on the pension system, and that the government should be accounting for the anticipated change now.

"In order for pension plans to reflect long term trends, official projections should go past the year 2030," the bank wrote in its report.

Other countries in Europe are also trying to gradually increase the retirement age as they struggle with an aging population.

France recently lifted its threshold to 62 from 60 for people who have paid social security contributions throughout their working life. For those who haven't, the retirement age is 67. Italy, which is also struggling with high public debt, is gradually increasing its retirement thresholds, to 66 for both men and women by 2018.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Germany warns on risks of playing 'Pokemon Go' at airports

BERLIN (AP)—Police and the airport operators' association in Germany are warning of the potential dangers of playing "Pokemon Go" in some airport areas. They say so-called Pokestops beyond security controls should be deleted to prevent possible incidents. "Pokemon Go" was rolled out in Germany in mid-July. Federal police and airport association ADV said Monday that playing it at airports can bring "special dangers and risks." They suggest that players avoiding security checks or opening emergency doors to catch their virtual quarry could cause "wide-reaching police measures and possibly civil damages claims." Separately, police in the city of Osnabrueck said they'd rescued a man who "apparently wanted to catch a particular Pokemon" from railway tracks.

They said the inebriated 22-year-old told them his cellphone led him to the spot Sunday morning.

Google's Duo app joins crowded field of video calling

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Knock, knock, Google's video chatting app has arrived. The app, dubbed Duo, represents Google's response to other popular video calling options, including Apple's FaceTime, Microsoft's Skype and Facebook's Messenger app. Duo isn't much different from the other video chatting services, except that it gives a glimpse at who is making the call, helping the recipient decide whether to answer. Google calls this feature, "Knock, knock." The new app, announced in May, is being released Tuesday as a free service for phones running on Google's Android operating system as well as Apple's iPhones.Like FaceTime for iPhones, Duo only requires a person's phone number to connect. Many other services require both participants to have account logins to use their video calling options.

Indonesia airlines cleared to fly to US after safety upgrade

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—The U.S. aviation regulator has upgraded Indonesia's safety rating, clearing the way for its airlines to fly to North America nearly a decade after it was barred. The Federal Aviation Administration said its assessment completed in March found that safety oversight by Indonesia's civil aviation authority complied with international standards. It said in a statement on Monday that the decision means Indonesian airlines that get necessary approvals can fly to the U.S. and code share with U.S. airlines. Indonesia, an archipelago of 250 million people that is one of the world's fastest growing air travel markets, has had a bumpy safety record with numerous crashes of civilian and military aircraft and many near misses. The FAA downgraded Indonesia in April 2007. Indonesian airlines were also barred from flying to Europe from 2007 to 2009. The U.S. decision is a potential boost for national carrier Garuda, which is the Indonesian airline most likely to start regular flights to U.S. destinations.

Nation

Police chief was surprised by violence after fatal shooting

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Following a night of violence that left half a dozen businesses in flames, the Milwaukee police chief expressed surprise at the level of unrest that erupted after the fatal shooting of a black man by a black officer.

"This was, quite frankly, unanticipated," Chief Edward Flynn said Monday, two days after the worst of the rioting hit the Sherman Park neighborhood on the city's economically depressed and largely black north side.

The chief's statement raised questions about whether authorities could have taken steps to curb the violence, perhaps by sharing details of the shooting earlier, including the officer's race or footage from his body camera.

Randolph McLaughlin, a Pace University law professor and a civil rights attorney, questioned how Milwaukee leaders could have expected the streets to stay quiet on Saturday night given the national debate about law enforcement and race.

"For a mayor to say everything's fine (and) we just killed somebody, that's turning a blind eye to his town," McLaughlin said.

He said Mayor Tom Barrett should have reached out to residents and community leaders and asked, "What do we need to do to make sure your community is safe?" McLaughlin said. "He needs to stay on the job."

David Klinger, a University of Missouri-St. Louis sociology professor who studies police use of deadly force, said it would not necessarily have helped for police to release the officer's race sooner. He pointed out that the city saw disruptions on Sunday night, after his race had been publicized, though the intensity was less than the previous night.

He also said the city may have hesitated to give the officer's race sooner for fear it would identify him.

Remy Cross, a criminologist at Webster University in St. Louis, said the officer's race probably does not matter to many people in the community.

"They see the institution as racist, not the individual," Cross said. "Once you put on the uniform, you're blue, and blue sees black as bad."

Flynn said it was "an error in narrative to assume" that because police shot someone that the shooting will be controversial "so let's have a riot."

Cecil Brewer, 67, who owns an apartment house directly across from the intersection where protesters burned a gas station on Saturday night and hurled rocks at police on Sunday night, said the rioting was all but inevitable.

"There's so much anger in these kids," Brewer said. The shooting "was like a spark in a powder keg. It doesn't matter to them if what the authorities are saying is true."

On Monday, the mayor issued a proclamation applying the city's curfew to 17-year-olds. Until then, it had applied to teenagers 16 or younger. Barrett also moved the summer curfew back by one hour, to 10 p.m., and warned that the rule would be enforced more tightly.

AP

Protesters block traffic at a busy intersection in Milwaukee, Sunday, Aug. 14, 2016. Police say they are making multiple arrests in Milwaukee after a second night of unrest over the police killing of a black man.

ACROSS THE NATION

Man arrested for arson blaze that decimated California town

LOWER LAKE, Calif. (AP)—A California man was arrested Monday on arson charges for allegedly sparking a wildfire that exploded over the weekend, destroying more than 175 homes, business and other structures in a Northern California town, authorities said. Lake County Sheriff Brian Martin said Damin Anthony Pashilk, 40, of Clearlake was arrested Monday on 17 counts of arson and is in jail. He is suspected in numerous fires in Lake County over the past year. California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Director Ken Pimlott said the blaze in the town of Lower Lake has caused over $10 million in damages and left dozens of families homeless.

Pennsylvania's attorney general found guilty in perjury case

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (AP)—Pennsylvania's attorney general showed little emotion Monday night as she was convicted of leaking grand jury secrets and lying about it under oath. In calling her a flight risk, the judge ordered Kathleen Kane, 50, to surrender her passport and threatened to jail her if she retaliated against the once-trusted aides who testified against her. "The court is concerned, especially with respect to her potential to flee, particularly with her going to Haiti (in 2014) in the middle of her office's tumult, and leaving no one watching the store," Judge Wendy Demchick-Alloy told Kane's lawyers. Kane's political consultant, testifying with a grant of immunity, changed his grand jury testimony last week to tell jurors that he had "conspired" with Kane to leak the grand jury material and then frame her chief deputy for the crime.

'Act of God': Ruinous flooding catches Louisiana off guard

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP)—An act of God is how some are describing it, a catastrophic 48-hour torrent of rain that sent thousands of people in Louisiana scrambling for safety and left many wondering how a region accustomed to hurricanes could get caught off guard so badly.

At least six people have been killed and more than 20,000 have had to be rescued since Friday in some of the worst flooding the state has ever seen.

A seventh body was pulled from floodwaters Monday, said Casey Rayborn Hicks, a spokeswoman for the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office. A volunteer patrolling in his boat found the body, and sheriff's units confirmed the discovery. The manner of death and identification—confirmation of a flood-related death—will come from the coroner's office, Hicks said.

As of Monday, the rain had mostly stopped, but rivers and creeks in many areas were still dangerously bloated and new places were getting hit by flooding. In areas south of Baton Rouge, people were filling sandbags, protecting their houses and bracing for the worst as the water worked its way south. In Ascension Parish officials said some small towns have already been swamped by floods.

More than 11,000 people were staying in shelters, with a movie studio and a civic center that usually hosts concerts and ballets pressed into service.

"It was an absolute act of God. We're talking about places that have literally never flooded before," said Anthony "Ace" Cox, who started a Facebook group to help collect information about where people were stranded. He was in Baton Rouge to help his parents and grandparents, who got flooded out.

"Everybody got caught off guard," he said.

Forecasters said one reason was the sheer, almost off-the-charts intensity of the storm and the difficulty of predicting how bad it would be.

Meteorologist Ken Graham of the National Weather Service's office in Slidell said forecasters alerted people days in advance of the storms. The forecasts Thursday were for 8 inches of rain, with higher totals expected in some areas.

Trump calls for 'extreme vetting' of immigration applicants

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio (AP)—Donald Trump called Monday for "extreme" ideological vetting of immigrants seeking admission to the United States, vowing to significantly overhaul the country's screening process and block those who sympathize with extremist groups or don't embrace American values.

"Those who do not believe in our Constitution, or who support bigotry and hatred, will not be admitted for immigration into our country," Trump said in a foreign policy address in Youngstown, Ohio. "Only those who we expect to flourish in our country—and to embrace a tolerant American society—should be issued visas."

Trump's proposals were the latest version of a policy that began with his unprecedented call to temporarily bar foreign Muslims from entering the country—a religious test that was criticized across party lines as un-American.

The Republican nominee has made stricter immigration measures a central part of his proposals for defeating the Islamic State, a battle he said Monday is akin to the Cold War struggle against communism. He called for parents, teachers and others to promote "American culture" and encouraged "assimilation."

Trump's address comes during a trying stretch for his presidential campaign. He's struggled to stay on message and build a consistent case against Democrat Hillary Clinton, repeatedly roiling the White House race with provocative comments that have deeply frustrated many in his own party.

Clinton has seized on Republican concerns about Trump, highlighting the steady stream of GOP national security experts who say their party's nominee is unfit to serve as commander in chief. She kept up that argument Monday as she campaigned alongside Vice President Joe Biden in Scranton, Pennsylvania, a working class area where both have family ties.

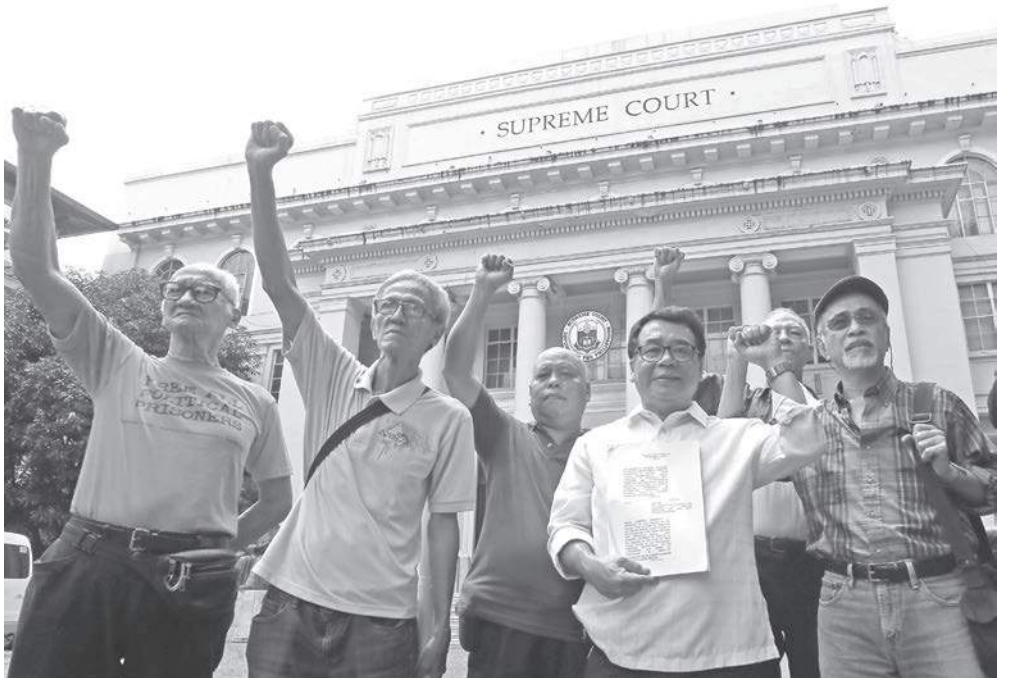
Asia

PH court asked to block hero's burial for Marcos

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Human rights victims of the late Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos' regime petitioned the Supreme Court on Monday to block and nullify a government directive to have the ex-leader buried in a heroes' cemetery—an emotional and divisive issue for Filipinos who ousted Marcos in a 1986 "people power" revolt.

The respondents asked the court to issue a temporary restraining order, and after deliberations, to nullify the Executive Department's decision to allow Marcos' burial at the Heroes Cemetery.

The petition said such burial for the "tyrant" and the "plunderer par excellence" is illegal, would flout principles enshrined in the constitution and violate regulations that outline who is entitled to be interred in the military-run cemetery.



AP

Martial Law victims, from left, Rodolfo Dela Cruz, Danilo Dela Fuente, Fr. Dionilo Cabillas, former Congressman and human rights lawyer Nery Colmenares, Felix Dalisay and Bonifacio Ilagan, clench their fists shortly after filing a petition before the Supreme Court seeking to stop the burial at the Heroes' Cemetery of the late Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos Monday, Aug. 15, 2016, in Manila, Philippines.

It also would abandon a 1993 agreement between the Marcos family and then President Fidel Ramos' government for Marcos to be buried in his hometown in northern Ilocos Norte province, the petitioners said.

President Rodrigo Duterte has remained firm in his stance to allow the burial despite growing opposition.

On Sunday, about 1,500 protesters carrying a large streamer that read "Marcos not a hero" braved the rain, wind and mud at Manila's seaside Rizal Park to call on Duterte to reconsider his decision. They launched a signature campaign to try to stop the burial, tentatively set for next month.

Marcos died in exile in Hawaii in 1989. His remains are displayed in a glass coffin in his hometown.

The petitioners, including former congressmen Saturnino Ocampo and Neri Colmenares, are among human rights victims who won a class-action lawsuit in Hawaii against Marcos. The respondents include Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana and two military officials who issued directives to carry out Duterte's order, which the petition said "was made with grave abuse of discretion."

"With thousands of Filipinos murdered and disappeared under his watch and billions of peoples' money stolen during his regime, Marcos should have spent his last years in prison, and his death in an unmarked and desolate grave," the petition said.

A hero's burial will not achieve closure for the nation because his victims, "who continue to cry out for justice, can never rest in peace," it added.

Thai bombings draw attention to forgotten war in south

BANGKOK (AP)—It happens with horrifying frequency in southern Thailand, a country much of the world associates with pristine beaches and alluring, sapphire blue seas: a bomb goes off. Victims are maimed or killed. Security forces comb through blood-spattered wreckage and debris.

On Thursday and Friday, 11 more bombs rattled seven Thai provinces, killing four people and wounding dozens more. But this time was different: the targets were not in the country's three southernmost provinces, where a bitter war waged by Muslim separatists has flared for more than a decade.

Instead, they shook towns filled with tourists further north, places like Hua Hin, where 11 foreigners were injured, most by a small explosive device that detonated in a narrow alley filled with bars, restaurants and massage parlors.

Ethnic Malay insurgents launched their armed bid for greater autonomy in Thailand's so-called "deep south" in 2004. But more than 6,700 dead and 12,000 wounded later, the struggle seems more forgotten than ever—a reality illustrated by a flood of weekend media coverage that dwarfed the usual trickle of reporting about the far-southern conflict.

"Sadly, people get used to violence. The media gets bored with it. The story becomes mundane," said Rungrawee Chalermsripinyorat, an independent analyst and expert on the insurgency.

If it turns out insurgents were responsible for last week's bombings, it would mark a dangerous new expansion of the low-level war that has plagued the mostly Buddhist country's southern border region with Malaysia.

It could also prove a dangerous incentive to carry out more violence.

With few exceptions, the militants have so far avoided attacking known tourist destinations because "they didn't want to be seen as a terrorist group," Rungrawee said. "But that could change if attacks like this prove effective" by attracting greater attention to a war that's ground on largely out of sight for years, he said.

While there has been no claim of responsibility and authorities have yet to blame any specific group, police investigators and analysts say the latest violence bears striking similarities to the methods used by the separatist militants who have traditionally limited operations to the Muslim-dominated provinces of Yala, Pattani and Narathiwat.

The attacks Thursday and Friday took place in seven locations south of Bangkok, including the island of Phuket. The bombs were small and appeared designed to shock rather than induce mass casualties, and left no immediate major impact on Thailand's lucrative tourist industry.

Asked Monday about the possibility that insurgents orchestrated the latest violence, police commissioner Chakthip Chaijinda reiterated words spoken by other top officials over the weekend, saying "there are similarities in bomb-making methods and the equipment."

ASIAN BRIEFS

33 killed, 28 injured as crowded bus veers off Nepal road

KATHMANDU, Nepal (AP)—A bus filled with people traveling to their home villages in Nepal to receive the first government payments for victims of last year's devastating earthquake slipped off a narrow mountain road Monday, killing at least 33 people and injuring 28 others. The bus was heading to Kartike Deurali village, among the worst hit by the quake, which killed nearly 9,000 people in the country. The road—little more than a trail—was only wide enough for one vehicle to pass at a time and was slippery because of continuous rain. Home Ministry official Chiranjivi Nepal said 33 people were killed, but victims and relatives said many more may have died because the wreckage was scattered along the slope below the road and some areas were inaccessible.

Father, ex-husband arrested in UK-Pakistani woman's killing

ISLAMABAD (AP)—A top Pakistani investigator says police have arrested the father and ex-husband of a British woman of Pakistani origin who was killed last month in what authorities suspect was an "honor killing." Samia Shahid's family buried her, claiming she died of natural causes. Police later concluded the 28-year-old was strangled to death. Abu Bakar Khuda Bux said Monday that the woman's father, Mohammad Shahid, and her former husband, Mohammad Shakeel, are prime suspects in her murder. Bux says they were arrested on Sunday. After her death, Shahida's second husband, Mukhtar Kazim, accused the family of killing her after luring her back to Pakistan on the pretext of her father's illness. The police reopened the case and eventually declared it a murder.

Pakistan reports nearly 1,000 so-called "honor killings" every year.

Indian elephant that washed up in Bangladesh dies

NEW DELHI (AP)—An adult Indian elephant that became trapped in a swamp in Bangladesh after being caught in raging floodwaters died on Tuesday after weeks of struggling for survival, a conservation official said. Tapan Kumar Dey, a former forest conservator who was overseeing the rescue operation, said the elephant died despite the "highest efforts" to save it. "This is very sad. We tried our best to save it," Dey said. The cause of the death of the elephant named "Bangabahadur," or Hero of Bengal, was not immediately clear. The elephant, tired and weak from its struggle, had been tranquilized earlier in an attempt to steer it from the swamp and to bring it closer to a road so it could be transported to an elephant safari park.

1 Indian soldier, 4 rebels killed in gunbattles in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India (AP)—At least one paramilitary soldier and four suspected rebels were killed in a series of gunbattles in Indian-controlled Kashmir despite a security lockdown in the disputed region Monday as India celebrated the anniversary of its independence from British rule. Ten government troops were also wounded.

The Himalayan region has been under curfew for almost six weeks since the largest street protests in years erupted after Indian troops killed a top rebel leader, and security was tightened further in the week preceding India's Independence Day.

The first clash took place in the Nowhatta neighborhood of Srinagar, Kashmir's main city, when suspected rebels attacked troops on patrol to enforce the curfew. K.K. Sharma, a top official of the Central Reserve Paramilitary Force, said the gunbattle lasted several hours.

The second attack, similar in nature, took place in the Khanyar neighborhood.

Two rebels and one paramilitary soldier were killed, Sharma said. A local policeman and nine paramilitary troops were wounded, two of them critically, he said.

Two rebels were also fatally shot in a gunbattle with Indian troops in Uri, an area west of Srinagar. The army said the men had crossed the highly militarized Line of Control separating the Pakistani- and Indian-held portions of Kashmir.

Pakistan celebrated Independence Day on Sunday, and tens of thousands of Kashmiris on the Indian side rallied and hoisted Pakistani flags and chanted "Long Live Pakistan" and "Go India, go back."

At least 40 people were injured in clashes between rock-throwing protesters and government forces, who fired shotgun pellets and tear gas.

Kashmir's chief minister, Mehbooba Mufti, appealed for calm in her Independence Day speech Monday. The national flag fell on Mufti's head as she pulled the rope to unfurl it at a highly guarded soccer stadium in Srinagar, leading authorities to order an investigation to ascertain whether it was sabotage or negligence.

Kashmir is divided between India and Pakistan but claimed in its entirety by both.

India accuses Pakistan of arming and training Kashmiri rebels who have been fighting for independence or for a merger with Pakistan since 1989. Pakistan denies the charge, saying it provides only moral and political support.

More than 68,000 people have been killed in the fighting and in a subsequent Indian military crackdown.

World

15 Guantanamo detainees sent to UAE in major transfer

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—Fifteen prisoners at the Guantanamo Bay detention center were sent to the United Arab Emirates in the single largest release of detainees during the Obama administration, the Pentagon announced Monday.

The transfer of 12 Yemeni nationals and three Afghans to the UAE comes amid a renewed push to whittle down the number of detainees held at the U.S. prison in Cuba that President Barack Obama aims to close.

The Pentagon says 61 detainees now remain at Guantanamo, which was opened in January 2002 to hold foreign fighters suspected of links to the Taliban or the al-Qaida terrorist organization. During the Bush administration, 532 prisoners were released from Guantanamo, often in large groups to Afghanistan and Saudi Arabia.

The latest batch of released prisoners had been held without charge at Guantanamo, some for over 14 years. They were cleared for release by the Periodic Review Board, comprised of representatives from six U.S. government agencies.

The UAE successfully resettled five detainees transferred there last year, according to the Pentagon.

Lee Wolosky, the State Department's special envoy for Guantanamo's closure, said the U.S. was grateful to the United Arab Emirates for accepting the latest group of 15 men and helping pave the way for the detention center's closure.

"The continued operation of the detention facility weakens our national security by draining resources, damaging our relationships with key allies and partners, and emboldening violent extremists," Wolosky said.

In the United Arab Emirates, the state-run WAM news agency had no reports on the Guantanamo transfers on Tuesday and UAE officials declined to immediately comment on the Pentagon announcement.

AP

In this Nov. 21, 2013 file photo reviewed by the U.S. military, dawn arrives at the now closed Camp X-Ray, which was used as the first detention facility for al-Qaida and Taliban militants who were captured after the Sept. 11 attacks at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba.

Obama has been seeking to close the detention center amid opposition from Congress, which has prohibited transferring detainees to the U.S. for any reason. The administration has been working with other countries to resettle detainees who have been cleared for transfer.

Naureen Shah, Amnesty International USA's director of national security and human rights, said the transfers announced Monday are a "powerful sign that President Obama is serious about closing Guantanamo before he leaves office."

U.S. Rep. Ed Royce, a Republican from California who is chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, criticized the Obama administration for recent releases, portraying the freed detainees as "hardened terrorists."

The Office of the Director of National Intelligence says 5 percent of Guantanamo prisoners released since Obama took office have re-engaged in militant activities and an additional 8 percent are suspected of doing so. That compares with 21 percent confirmed and 14 percent suspected during the Bush administration.

According to Amnesty, one of the Afghans released to the UAE alleged that he was "tortured and subjected to other cruel treatment" while in U.S. military custody. The man, identified only as Obaidullah, was captured by U.S. special forces in July 2002 and allegedly admitted to acquiring and planting anti-tank mines to target U.S. and other coalition forces in eastern Afghanistan.

In clearing him for transfer, the review board said he hasn't expressed any anti-U.S. sentiment or intent to re-engage in militant activities. However, a Pentagon profile from last year also said he provided little information and they had little "insight into his current mindset."

One of the Yemeni men sent to the UAE was identified as Zahir Umar Hamis bin Hamdun, who the Pentagon alleged traveled to Afghanistan in 1999 and after training at a camp acted as a weapons and explosives trainer.

Mexico: Gunmen abduct presumed gang members in resort city

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Armed men abducted 10 to 12 presumed members of a crime gang who appeared to be celebrating at an upscale restaurant in the popular Mexican beach resort city of Puerto Vallarta, authorities said Monday.

Jalisco state prosecutor Eduardo Almaguer said at a news conference that preliminary results of the investigation indicated that all involved—kidnappers and kidnapped—were members of criminal organizations.

"They were not tourists or residents who work in legal activities," Almaguer said. "They were people tied to a criminal group we can very clearly presume."

He said authorities believe they know which groups were involved, but declined to name them.

The Jalisco New Generation cartel has become the dominant criminal force in the state. It has battled the powerful Sinaloa cartel for supremacy in other parts of the country, such as Baja California Sur.

Almaguer said two SUVs carrying five gunmen arrived around 1 a.m. at La Leche restaurant on the city's main boulevard, which runs through the hotel zone between the old beach city and the airport.

Witnesses reported that four women in the targeted group were not taken by the gunmen, he said. He said authorities were looking for those women.

All of those abducted were from the western states of Sinaloa, Nayarit and Jalisco, Almaguer said.

He said some of those abducted had been vacationing in Puerto Vallarta for a week and authorities found lots of drinks and luxury items inside the restaurant. Five vehicles were abandoned at the restaurant, among them one with Jalisco license plates, but a false registration.

"Obviously, those who acted (the kidnappers)—we presume with the information we have—also belonged to a criminal group that acted against members of another criminal group they located here in Puerto Vallarta," Almaguer said.

Mexico City-based security analyst Alejandro Hope said that without knowing who was taken, it was impossible to say what the fallout could be.

He recalled some violence last year in Puerto Vallarta but said the city had been quiet recently. He added that while Jalisco New Generation controls the area, it would be possible for another group to enter the city.

Hope also called it odd that a group of alleged cartel members would be taken without a shot being fired.

"It's a bit surprising that in effect they were drug traffickers but didn't have any security," Hope said.

Rampaging South Sudan troops raped foreigners, killed local

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—The soldier pointed his AK-47 at the female aid worker and gave her a choice.

"Either you have sex with me, or we make every man here rape you and then we shoot you in the head," she remembers him saying.

She didn't really have a choice: By the end of the evening, she had been raped by 15 South Sudanese soldiers.

On July 11, South Sudanese troops, fresh from winning a battle in the capital, Juba, over opposition forces, went on a nearly four-hour rampage through a residential compound popular with foreigners, in one of the worst targeted attacks on aid workers in South Sudan's three-year civil war. They shot dead a local journalist while forcing the foreigners to watch, raped several foreign women, singled out Americans, beat and robbed people and carried out mock executions, several witnesses told The Associated Press.

For hours throughout the assault, the U.N. peacekeeping force stationed less than a mile away refused to respond to desperate calls for help. Neither did embassies, including the U.S. Embassy.

The Associated Press interviewed by phone eight survivors, both male and female, including three who said they were raped. The other five said they were beaten; one was shot. Most insisted on anonymity for their safety or to protect their organizations still operating in South Sudan.

The accounts highlight, in raw detail, the failure of the U.N. peacekeeping force to uphold its core mandate of protecting civilians, notably those just a few minutes' drive away. The Associated Press previously reported that U.N. peacekeepers in Juba did not stop the rapes of local women by soldiers outside the U.N.'s main camp last month.

The attack on the Terrain hotel complex shows the hostility toward foreigners and aid workers by troops under the command of South Sudan's President Salva Kiir, who has been fighting supporters of rebel leader Riek Machar since civil war erupted in December 2013.

Army spokesman Lul Ruai did not deny the attack at the Terrain but said it was premature to conclude the army was responsible. "Everyone is armed, and everyone has access to uniforms," he said.

WORLD BRIEFS

Suspected rebels kill at least 36 civilians in eastern Congo

KINSHASA, Congo (AP)—Suspected rebels have killed at least 36 people in northeastern Congo, spurring residents to stage street protests against the ongoing violence, officials said Sunday. Allied Democratic Forces, with origins in neighboring Uganda, likely carried out the attack late Saturday after the army pushed them from their bases, said Congo army spokesman Gen. Richard Kasonga. "Two days ago we won back their positions in Mwalika about 30 kilometers (19 miles) from Beni and we destroyed their underground dwellings," he said. "In their flight they killed at least 30 civilians in Rwangoma." Congo's government said the country will observe three days of mourning starting Monday.

Unexploded bombs extend Yemen war's deadly toll

HASN FAJ ATTAN, Yemen (AP)—Screams rang out through the hilltop village outside Yemen's capital after 10-year-old Youssef al-Salmi set off a bomb he had found in a field, perhaps thinking it was a toy. He became the latest of several Yemeni civilians to be killed by unexploded ordnance from the country's ongoing civil war, which pits Saudi and U.S.-backed government forces against Shiite Houthi rebels. The conflict has killed more than 9,000 people, displaced 2.4 million, and destroyed much of the already limited infrastructure in the Arab world's poorest country. U.N.-backed peace talks held in Kuwait collapsed earlier this month. Rights groups and U.N. agencies have expressed concern that even if the fighting is brought to an end, the country will still grapple with a brutal legacy of unexploded munitions, including bombs dropped by Saudi-led warplanes in and around the rebel-held capital, Sanaa, and in the Houthis' northern heartland.

Focus

'Islam for Dummies': IS recruits have poor grasp of faith

By AYA BATRAWY
PAISLEY DODDS
LORI HINNANT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AP

This undated file image posted on an extremist website on Jan. 14, 2014, shows fighters from the Islamic State group marching in Raqqa, Syria. The group champions a hyper-religious lifestyle grounded in its self-proclaimed caliphate, but most recruits have a superficial understanding of religion and are largely ignorant in the laws of Islam, according to documents obtained by The Associated Press.

PARIS (AP)—The jihadi employment form asked the recruits, on a scale of 1 to 3, to rate their knowledge of Islam. And the Islamic State applicants, herded into a hangar somewhere at the Syria-Turkey border, turned out to be overwhelmingly ignorant.

The extremist group could hardly have hoped for better.

At the height of Islamic State's drive for foot soldiers in 2013 and 2014, typical recruits included the group of Frenchmen who went bar-hopping with their recruiter back home, the recent European convert who now hesitantly describes himself as gay, and two Britons who ordered "The Koran for Dummies" and "Islam for Dummies" from Amazon to prepare for jihad abroad. Their intake process complete, they were grouped in safe houses as a stream of Islamic State imams came in to indoctrinate them, according to court testimony and interviews by The Associated Press.

"I realized that I was in the wrong place when they began to ask me questions on these forms like 'when you die, who should we call?'" said the 32-year-old European recruit, speaking to the AP on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisals. He said he thought he was joining a group to fight President Bashar Assad and help Syrians, not the Islamic State.

The European, whose boyish demeanor makes him appear far younger than his age, went to Syria in 2014. He said new recruits were shown IS propaganda videos on Islam, and the visiting imams repeatedly praised martyrdom. Far from home, unschooled in religion, having severed family ties and turned over electronic devices, most were in little position to judge.

An AP analysis of thousands of leaked Islamic State documents reveals most of its recruits from its earliest days came with only the most basic knowledge of Islam. A little more than 3,000 of these documents included the recruits' knowledge of Shariah, the system that interprets into law verses from the Quran and "hadith"—the sayings and actions of the Prophet Muhammad.

According to the documents, which were acquired by the Syrian opposition site Zaman al-Wasl and shared with the AP, 70 percent of recruits were listed as having just "basic" knowledge of Shariah—the lowest possible choice. Around 24 percent were categorized as having an "intermediate" knowledge, with just 5 percent considered advanced students of Islam. Five recruits were listed as having memorized the Quran.

The findings address one of the most troubling questions about IS recruitment in the United States and Europe: Are disaffected people who understand Shariah more prone to radicalization? Or are those with little knowledge of Islam more susceptible to the group's radical ideas that promote violence?

The documents suggest the latter. The group preys on this religious ignorance, allowing extremists to impose a brand of Islam constructed to suit its goal of maximum territorial expansion and carnage as soon as recruits come under its sway.

Islamic State's most notorious new supporters appear to have an equally tenuous link with religion. Mohamed Lahouaiyej Bouhlel, who killed 85 people by plowing a truck into a Bastille Day crowd in Nice, France, was described by family and neighbors as indifferent to religion, volatile and prone to drinking sprees, with a bent for salsa dancing and a reported male lover.

Unlike Omar Mateen, the Orlando attacker, Bouhlel did not make a public declaration of allegiance to Islamic State, much less prove he had direct ties to extremists in the war zone. Still, the group was quick to claim both as foot soldiers.

■■■

The AP analyzed the IS entry form documents of around 4,030 foreign recruits who crossed into Syria when the group was rapidly expanding and seizing territory in Iraq and Syria in 2013 and 2014. At that time, the CIA estimated the extremist group had between 20,000 and 31,500 fighters across Iraq and Syria.

Among the documents were forms for nine of 10 young men from the eastern French city of Strasbourg, all recruited by a man named Mourad Fares. One of them, Karim Mohammad-Aggad, described barhopping in Germany with Fares. He told investigators that IS recruiters used "smooth talk" to persuade him.

He'd traveled with his younger brother and friends to Syria in late 2013. Two died in Syria, and within a few months, seven returned to France and were arrested. Mohammad-Aggad's brother, 23-year-old Foued, returned to Paris and was one of the three men who stormed the Bataclan in a night of attacks Nov. 13 that killed 130 people.

"My religious beliefs had nothing to do with my departure," Karim Mohammad-Aggad told the court, before being sentenced to nine years in prison. "Islam was used to trap me like a wolf," he said.

IS data shows Karim and his brother Foued were among eight in the Strasbourg group listed as having "basic" knowledge of Sharia.

Expressing a common sentiment shared by many Europeans of North African descent, Mohammed-Aggad told the court he felt like an immigrant in Algeria and "a dirty Arab" in France. After just a few months in Syria, he said he left IS because he was treated by the extremists as an "apostate"—someone who had renounced his religion.

When pressed by the judge on his knowledge of Shariah and how the IS group implements it, Mohammad-Aggad, a former gas station attendant, appeared dumbfounded, saying repeatedly: "I don't have the knowledge to answer the question."

One of his co-defendants, Radouane Taher, was also pressed by the judge on whether beheadings carried out by the IS group conformed to Islamic law.

He couldn't say for sure, answering: "I don't have the credentials."

That's where Amazon comes in.

The trial of longtime friends Mohammed Ahmed and Yusuf Sarwar, from the British city of Birmingham, revealed the 22-year-olds had ordered "The Koran for Dummies" and "Islam for Dummies" books in preparation for their trip to join extremists in Syria. They were arrested on their return to Britain and convicted in 2014 of terrorism offenses.

Patrick Skinner, a former CIA case officer with extensive experience with Mideast extremist organizations, said some people claim allegiance to IS out of religious belief, but that most who join, including those from the West, are people "reaching for a sense of belonging, a sense of notoriety, a sense of excitement."

"Religion is an afterthought," said Skinner, who is also director of special projects at security consultancy the Soufan Group.

Those who truly crave religious immersion would go to Al-Azhar in Cairo, he added, referring to the thousand-year-old seat of learning for Shariah and Quranic studies.

In its recent English language magazine Dabiq, dedicated largely to bolstering its own Muslim credentials, Islamic State dismissed Al-Azhar as part of an "approach to subdue Muslims through appeasement," with the West.

Mohammed Abdelfadel, an Islamic scholar who heads a German-language unit at Al-Azhar that tracks Islamic State propaganda and statements, said the group spews superficial notions about what is "halal and haram," or what is permissible and forbidden in Islam. He says the group's propaganda videos lionize IS fighters as masculine, strong martyrs going to heaven for the sake of God—counter to Islamic laws that forbid terrorism, the murder of non-combatants in war, the imposition of Islam on non-Muslims and other criminal activity.

The recruits' Shariah knowledge is important because IS not only needs soldiers and suicide bombers, but administrators and Shariah officials to oversee its local courts and judges, who in turn promote IS ideology.

It also matters because those who've claimed advanced knowledge in Shariah on the IS entry documents were less likely to want to become suicide bombers, according to a study by the U.S. military's Combating Terrorism Center, an academic institution at the United States Military Academy.

"If martyrdom is seen as the highest religious calling, then a reasonable expectation would be that the people with the most knowledge about Islamic law (Shariah) would desire to carry out these operations with greater frequency," said the report.

However, despite the religious justification that IS uses for suicide missions, "those with the most religious knowledge within the organization itself are the least likely to volunteer to be suicide bombers," the study found.

Islamic scholar Tariq Ramadan said a close look at the IS group's top commanders shows that many had no religious credentials but, instead, they once held senior positions under Saddam Hussein's secular Baathist government.

Ramadan teaches Islamic Studies at Oxford and has written numerous books on Islam and the integration of Muslims in Europe. He says Muslim scholars must demonstrate that what IS teaches is wrong.

"The people who are doing this are not experiencing martyrdom, they are criminals. They are killing innocent people. Nothing in Islam, nothing ever can justify the killing of innocent people, never, ever."

The gay European recruit said he converted to Islam because he was interested in the culture and it was easy.

"It only required one prayer and no prior understanding of Islam," he said. "There was no hierarchy and it was all about living a good life."

As a convert with almost no knowledge in Islam, he says he was easy prey.

"People like me were tricked into something that they didn't understand. I never meant to end up with IS."

Good Housekeeping

LIVING SMART:

5 design trends for wood floors

By MARION J. LOUGHEED
ANGIE'S LIST

Wood flooring is a classic look for any home, but there are trends to consider when installing a new floor or refinishing an existing one:

1 Wide floor boards
If you have smaller rooms, consider the trend toward wider planks, which create the illusion of more space. While wide boards can work in any room, the look is especially nice for cozier rooms.

2 Earth-friendly wood
Sustainable products continue to be popular, including bamboo and cork. Bear in mind that these flooring materials aren't as tough as hardwood, and will need different maintenance and care. They may however, give your rooms a fresh, natural appeal.

For more information about bamboo and other flooring options, see the Angie's List Guide to Wood Floor Alternatives.

The popularity of exotic woods has contributed to global deforestation. An alternative is to have floors made of wood reclaimed from old buildings or other sources. In the case of oak and some other hardwoods, reclaimed wood may make a better floor, since wood in older buildings often came from heartwood.

3 Color choice
Darker tones, such as deep cherry and mahogany, remain popular, and help create a sense of opulence and grandeur associated with classic comfort. Lighter colors contribute to a more casual, natural look. Ask your flooring professional to show you the latest options in wood floor color.

4 Handscraped hardwood
At one time, wood floorboards routinely bore the marks of having been scraped by tools to create as smooth a finish as possible. Today, handscraped and distressed floors are becoming popular, and there are a variety of ways to achieve the look, which can add cost.

5 Prefinished flooring
Some wood flooring now comes precoated with a clear finish of tiny metal crystals that create a solid, protective layer. Such prefinishing allows floors to be quickly ready for foot traffic after installation.

For more information about wood floors, see the Angie's List Guide to Hardwood Flooring. And when considering a new floor or having an existing one refinished, check Angie's List for local consumer reviews on wood flooring professionals, who are among more than 550 service providers on the List.

TNS
Hand scraping is a contemporary wood flooring trend with old-time roots.

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING ONE

Melon Trio

Cantaloupe, watermelon and honeydew combine for a sweet summer treat.

1 lemon
1/4 cup sugar
1/4 cup water
Pinch ground red pepper (cayenne)
1/2 cantaloupe (1 1/2 pounds), seeded, peeled and cut into 4 wedges
1 piece seedless watermelon (1 1/2 pounds), scooped into balls
1/4 honeydew melon (12 ounces), cut into 1/2-inch cubes.

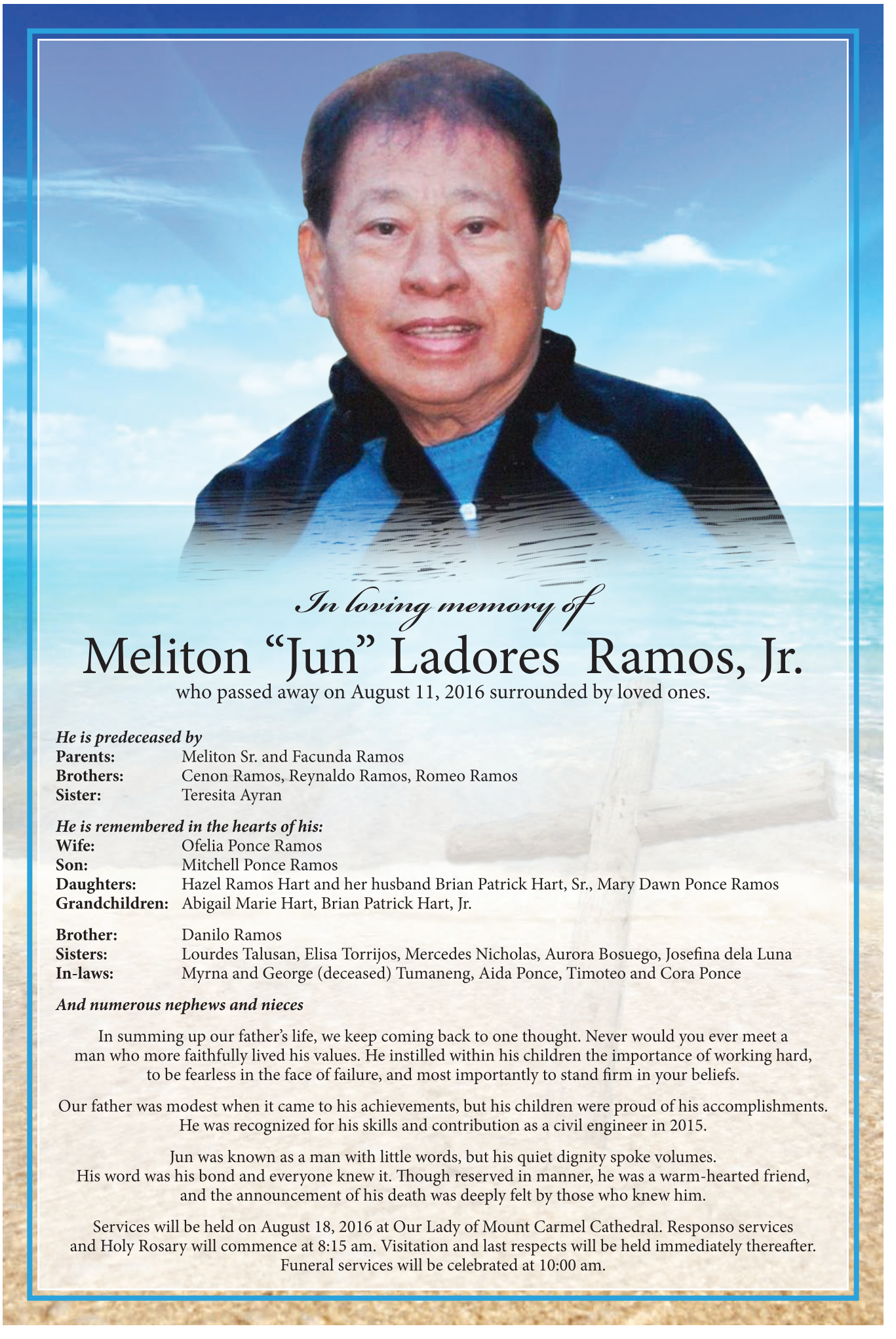
1. From lemon, grate 1/2 teaspoon peel; squeeze 2 tablespoons juice.

2. In 1-quart saucepan, heat sugar and water to boiling over high heat. Boil 1 minute. Remove pan from heat; stir in lemon peel and juice and pepper. Transfer to heatproof glass measure or bowl; cover and refrigerate syrup until cold, 1 hour or up to 2 days.

3. Just before serving, on each of 4 dessert plates, place a cantaloupe wedge. In medium bowl, combine watermelon balls, honeydew cubes and chilled syrup. Spoon melons with their syrup over cantaloupe wedges.

* Each serving: About 105 calories, 1g total fat (0g saturated), 1g protein, 27g carb., 1g fiber, 0mg cholesterol, 10mg sodium.

For thousands of triple-tested recipes, visit our website at www.goodhousekeeping.com/recipes/.



In loving memory of

Meliton "Jun" Ladores Ramos, Jr.

who passed away on August 11, 2016 surrounded by loved ones.

He is predeceased by

Parents:	Meliton Sr. and Facunda Ramos
Brothers:	Cenon Ramos, Reynaldo Ramos, Romeo Ramos
Sister:	Teresita Ayran

He is remembered in the hearts of his:

Wife:	Ofelia Ponce Ramos
Son:	Mitchell Ponce Ramos
Daughters:	Hazel Ramos Hart and her husband Brian Patrick Hart, Sr., Mary Dawn Ponce Ramos
Grandchildren:	Abigail Marie Hart, Brian Patrick Hart, Jr.
Brother:	Danilo Ramos
Sisters:	Lourdes Talusan, Elisa Torrijos, Mercedes Nicholas, Aurora Bosuego, Josefina dela Luna
In-laws:	Myrna and George (deceased) Tumaneng, Aida Ponce, Timoteo and Cora Ponce

And numerous nephews and nieces

In summing up our father's life, we keep coming back to one thought. Never would you ever meet a man who more faithfully lived his values. He instilled within his children the importance of working hard, to be fearless in the face of failure, and most importantly to stand firm in your beliefs.

Our father was modest when it came to his achievements, but his children were proud of his accomplishments. He was recognized for his skills and contribution as a civil engineer in 2015.

Jun was known as a man with little words, but his quiet dignity spoke volumes.
His word was his bond and everyone knew it. Though reserved in manner, he was a warm-hearted friend, and the announcement of his death was deeply felt by those who knew him.

Services will be held on August 18, 2016 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral. Responso services and Holy Rosary will commence at 8:15 am. Visitation and last respects will be held immediately thereafter. Funeral services will be celebrated at 10:00 am.

Life & Style

Court rejects Cosby's attempt to reseal testimony on affairs

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—A federal appeals court on Monday rejected Bill Cosby's effort to reseal his deposition testimony about extramarital affairs, prescription sedatives and payments to women, saying the documents are now a matter of public knowledge.

The 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia ruled that the comedian's appeal was moot.

"The contents of the documents are a matter of public knowledge, and we cannot pretend that we could change that fact by ordering them resealed," the court wrote in an opinion.

Cosby's attorneys hoped a ruling in their favor could help them keep the documents from being used in the criminal case against him in Pennsylvania and in the many lawsuits filed around the country by women who accuse him of sexual assault or defamation.

Cosby gave the testimony in 2005 as part of a lawsuit brought against him by Andrea Constand, a Temple University employee who said he drugged and molested her at his home. She later settled for an undisclosed sum, and

In this Feb. 2, 2016, file photo, actor and comedian Bill Cosby arrives for a court appearance in Norristown, Pa. AP

sensitive documents in the file remained sealed.

In the nearly 1,000-page deposition, the married comic once known as "America's Dad" for his beloved portrayal of Dr. Cliff Huxtable on his top-ranked 1980s TV show, "The Cosby Show," admitted to several extramarital affairs and said he obtained quaaludes to give to women he hoped to seduce.

The documents were released last year on a request from The Associated Press. U.S. District Judge Eduardo Robreno found the public had a right to Cosby's testimony because of his role as a self-appointed "public moralist" and because he had denied accusations he drugged and molested women.

In Monday's ruling, the appeals court questioned that "public moralist" rationale in releasing the documents, calling it "vague and undefined."

"While we are without jurisdiction to review this question, it is worth noting that, if we could review it, we would have serious reservations about the District Court's 'public moralist' rationale," the opinion said.

In court papers, his lawyers argued that he had been assured confidentiality and that the "private and embarrassing testimony" would cause serious injury to Cosby, "who relies upon his reputation for his livelihood."

Gayle C. Sproul, a lawyer for the AP, had argued against resealing the documents, saying that Cosby had not only spoken out on issues of marriage and morality but had also profited from them through books, TV shows and advertising.

Cosby's lawyers had said a ruling in their favor would allow him to argue in the other cases against him that the testimony should never have been made public in the first place and should not be admitted as evidence.

The release of the deposition led prosecutors in suburban Philadelphia to revisit Constand's 2005 police complaint and charge Cosby in December with felony sexual assault.

Cosby, 79, insists his sexual encounter with Constand in 2004 was consensual. He remains free on $1 million bail, and no trial date has been set.

Study finds women competitors dominate NBC's prime time

NEW YORK (AP)—During the first half of the Olympics, women have dominated the screen on NBC in the evening.

Through Saturday night, 58.5 percent of the competition time on NBC's prime-time telecasts involved women's sports, with 41.5 percent devoted to men, according to research released Monday by three college professors writing a book, "Olympic Television: Inside the Biggest Show on Earth."

For all of the Summer and Winter Olympics dating back to 1994, the 2012 London Games was the only competition where women got more airtime than the men—and even that didn't match the imbalance of Rio de Janeiro so far, said Andy Billings, a sports media professor at the University of Alabama.

"I think it shows that NBC is very progressive compared to any other form of sports media," said Billings, who conducted the research with James Angelini of the University of Delaware and Paul MacArthur of Utica College.

NBC has been among media outlets criticized for incidents of alleged sexism regarding the Olympics. An NBC sportscaster, for example, credited a Hungarian swimmer's husband for a career turnaround.

United States' Simone Biles smiles on the podium after winning vault gold during the artistic gymnastics women's apparatus final at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Sunday, Aug. 14, 2016. AP

An NBC executive's comment last month that NBC sought a reality show-like narrative flow to its coverage to appeal to women not interested in sports angered some women who are.

"We take great pride in knowing that no one devotes more broadcast network prime-time coverage to women's sports than NBC," said Jim Bell, executive producer of the Olympics.

Through mid-afternoon Monday, U.S. women had earned a total of 36 medals in Rio de Janeiro, 16 of them gold. Men had 32 medals, nine of them gold.

Much of the disparity can be explained by women's dominance in some of the sports that NBC follows most closely in its prime-time telecast.

For instance, women's gymnastics has accounted for nearly three hours more screen time for women, Billings said. The U.S. women's team and Simone Biles have dominated gymnastics in Rio, while American men have been less competitive.

Women's beach volleyball—where the competitors wear bikinis—has logged 2 hours, 45 minutes on NBC's marquee telecast, the study found. The men had been on for 35 seconds.

"We'd be naive if we didn't acknowledge that the sports they are showing, a lot of them involve women in swimsuits and leotards," Billings said.

While this may appeal to men, it generally doesn't turn off women, he said. Meanwhile, boxing is an example of a sport that doesn't appeal to women at all, and it has gotten no prime-time coverage at all. So far this Olympics, NBC's prime-time audience has been 55 percent women.

With the dominance of Michael Phelps, male swimmers have received an hour's more airtime than women, and men had an edge in early coverage of track and field, Billings said. He expects the gender disparity to grow closer by the end of the games.

An Olympic message to the Brazilian Bob Costas: Shut it!

Carlos Eduardo dos Santos Galvao Bueno, chief sports commentator for Globo, is seen on a screen in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Monday, Aug. 15, 2016. AP

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—When a BBC announcer suggested that a Brazilian broadcaster needed to shut up at the start of a swimming race at the Rio Olympics, he was voicing the feelings of many in the host country.

Considered the Bob Costas of Brazil, Carlos Eduardo dos Santos Galvao Bueno—known here simply as Galvao—is a love-him-or-hate-him announcer who is the voice of Brazilian sports. His raucous, over-the-top style helps make big sporting events feel even bigger in Brazil.

But those who dislike Galvao's clamorous colloquies have taken to social media during the Olympics to beg him to be a bit more silent and are reveling in the outside criticism. #CalaABocaGalvao is a thing. Translation: "Shut up, Galvao."

"Sometimes I change channels so I don't hear you," one Brazilian watcher said on social media.

Galvao, 66, is the chief sports commentator for Globo, a major television network in Brazil. He is the voice that brings World Cups, Formula One races and, of course, Olympic Games to millions of Brazilians. Beyond his seeming inability to take a breath, he's known for his blind support of Brazilian athletes, blunt disagreements with guests and fellow commentators, and excessive attention to the rivalry between Brazil and Argentina.

Among his signature sayings: "Winning is great, but beating Argentina is much better." ''These (insert nationality of opposing team here) are very annoying." ''Dramaaaaaaaaatic!" And the oft-heard "Haja coracao"—something akin to feeling like one might have a heart attack—now a common saying expressed by Brazilians during sporting events.

Galvao already was getting attention for a scathing commentary after Brazil's Olympic men's soccer team could manage only a 0-0 draw against Iraq and walked off the field without talking to reporters. "Ugly. Very ugly. ... Not professional. ... Unethical," Galvao said on air.

The swimming incident circulated on Twitter when a video of the BBC broadcast was posted. Before one of the many races featuring Michael Phelps last week, Galvao kept talking—loudly—as the swimmers took their starting positions. When an official paused to ask the crowd to quiet down, the BBC commentator said "Too much noise ... at least coming from the commentator next to me. I tell you, he needs to shut up during the start."

After the incident, Galvao acknowledged he should have zipped his lips and posted a picture on Instagram of him with the BBC broadcast team.

"Here are the Globo and BBC teams together. The bald man is Seoul 1988 Olympic champion Adrian Moorhouse. A colleague from other Olympics. My voice leaked into his microphone and they complained. I was wrong. I should have remained silent at the start. End of the whining," he said.

Another Galvao broadcast has since gone viral, as well: His account of Phelps' victory in the 100-meter butterfly at the Beijing Olympics in 2008.

"He is going to win, he is going to lose, he is going to win, he is going to lose. He lost... HE WON!" a waffling Galvao howled during the Globo broadcast.

Charlize Theron, Matthew McConaughey talk parenting, 'Kubo'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Charlize Theron and Matthew McConaughey take on parental roles in their new film, "Kubo and the Two Strings." Off camera, the two Oscar winners discussed their real-life approach to raising kids.

Both are teaching their children about compassion and responsibility, and McConaughey takes a Hollywood approach when talking to his kids about moral choices.

"We like the word residuals in our house," he said in a recent interview. "Which choices are going to pay you back later or are going to give you more green lights later on of being the young man or young woman that you want to be?"

"Kubo and the Two Strings," the latest film from stop-motion animation studio Laika ("Coraline," ''The Boxtrolls"), centers on a boy who ignites a long-dormant vendetta when he accidentally summons a spirit from his past. Theron and McConaughey play his trusted guides, Monkey and Beetle. The film opens Friday.

A father of three, McConaughey said he's still navigating the balance between parent and friend, roles he finds "intersect and overlap."

"Because a child sure needs a parent, and I've seen many, many examples where the adult was only trying to be the friend to the child, and he was doing a disservice to the child," he said. "But those are two parts. And I know I'm constantly engaging when to play."

AP

In this July 8, 2016 file photo, Matthew McConaughey, left, and Charlize Theron pose during a photo call for "Kubo and the Two Strings" in Los Angeles. The film opens Friday. Aug. 19.

Theron, who has two children, said she's willing to transform into whatever her son and daughter need, just as her character transforms in the film.

"If you feel like you have to become something or someone for your child in order to kind of get something through to them, then you do that," she said. "I think it's just limitless when you're a parent. There's nothing that you wouldn't do."

That includes playing silly roles around the house to entertain her 4-year-old son, Jackson.

"For a moment, he was so in love with the movie 'Annie,'" Theron said. "We would run through the house and he would pretend that he was Annie and I would pretend that I was Miss Hannigan."

Justin Bieber takes heat from Selena Gomez fans on Instagram

AP

In this Nov. 22, 2015 file photo, Justin Bieber arrives at the American Music Awards at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles.

Justin Bieber is threatening to go private on Instagram after getting negative comments from fans of ex-girlfriend Selena Gomez on pictures he posted alongside Sofia Richie.

Bieber posted several pictures of him and Richie over the weekend. One included the caption, "I'm gonna make my Instagram private if you guys don't stop the hate this is getting out of hand, if you guys are really fans you wouldn't be so mean to people that I like."

The caption sparked more criticism from some, reportedly including Gomez herself. Others commenters defend Bieber.

Richie is the daughter of singer Lionel Richie and the sister of former reality star Nicole Richie. ***(AP)***

Elvis fans make pilgrimage to his gravesite at Graceland

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—Thousands of Elvis Presley fans have made their annual pilgrimage to Graceland for a candlelight vigil marking the 39th anniversary of the singer's death in Memphis.

Despite pouring rain, Presley fans from around the world are holding candles and walking slowly through the gravesite of the rock 'n' roll icon, who died on Aug. 16, 1977. Since his death, devotees have come to pay their respects at Presley's grave, which is located on the grounds of his former home-turned-museum.

Monday night's vigil caps Elvis Week, the annual celebration of his life and career. Also Monday, officials announced details of a new 200,000 square-foot entertainment complex being built across the street from the Graceland house.

Maui ukulele player back in jail after Matisyahu show in LA

HONOLULU (AP)—A Maui ukulele player is back behind bars after a brief release to perform in Los Angeles with reggae artist Matisyahu.

Clint Alama's public defender Danielle Sears says he was late returning to Hawaii because he missed his flight and then caught another one after Friday's concert at the Hollywood Palladium.

A judge allowed Alama to fly to California while temporarily released from jail, where he's being held on a probation violation.

Matisyahu and his bassist Stu Brooks were at a Maui coffee shop recently when they heard Alama strumming the singer's hit "One Day." Matisyahu sang along, while Alama seemed oblivious to his signing partner's identity.

Alama -who turned himself in to police last week after a warrant was out for his arrest- revealed his legal problems when they invited him to Hollywood.

Henry Cavill teases black Superman costume on Instagram

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Superman will apparently be back in black.

"Man of Steel" star Henry Cavill posted a close-up image of a black Superman uniform Monday on Instagram . He's expected to return in next year's "Justice League."

Cavill's high-flying superhero—spoiler alert—met his demise at the conclusion of "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice" earlier this year.

The last son of Krypton was originally resurrected with a black suit after he was killed off in the comics in 1993.

Cavill wouldn't be the first Superman actor to sport a black uniform. "Superman Returns" actor Brandon Routh and "Lois & Clark" co-star Dean Cain also donned dark versions of the traditionally blue, red and yellow ensemble.

"Justice League" will unite Batman, Wonder Woman, Aquaman, The Flash and Cyborg.

AP

Henry Cavill walks on stage at the "Justice League" panel on day 3 of Comic-Con International on Saturday, July 23, 2016, in San Diego.

Man in relationship wants more than sleeping on floor

DEAR ABBY: I am a 40-year-old man, divorced with teenage children, and have been exclusively dating a woman who has a 4-year-old daughter. There have been no clashes between our children.

We have yet to have sex. When I'm over at her place, I sleep on the living room floor either on an inflatable air mattress (her idea) or in a sleeping bag (my response when I just couldn't take the air mattress any longer). Either way, I feel like I'm left to sleep on a dog bed—not great for my self-esteem, as you can imagine.

My girlfriend uses her daughter as the reason, suggesting that the girl just wouldn't understand me sleeping in Mommy's bed. I don't personally see it as being a big issue for her daughter, given how long we have been together. We have discussed the subject, and she makes reference to perhaps planning some sort of rendezvous, but it never seems to go from theory to practice.

There are no religious issues here. My girlfriend did have a promiscuous and troubled past as a young adult, so I'm sensitive to the issue. But this is driving me nuts. Any suggestions would be appreciated.

ON HOLD IN NEW YORK

DEAR ON HOLD: People usually find the time to do the things they want to do. Your girlfriend may be holding out for marriage, not have a strong sex drive, or not be as attracted to you as you are to her.

You didn't mention how long you have been seeing this lady, but I think it's time you discussed your feelings with her again, find out exactly why your sexual relationship hasn't gone from theory to practice, and take your cue from there.

DEAR ABBY: I'm 37 and have been married for eight years. I love my husband, but I'm not "in love" with him. In my younger years I gave my heart to another woman.

Since then, I have masked my true feelings, but I can't do it anymore. I'm still in love with "Loretta," and I want to be with her. But now I have many responsibilities—husband, kids, etc.

I have told my husband about my feelings, but he seems to think this is something I'll get over. I was 17 when Loretta and I started our relationship. We still love each other very much. I don't want to hurt him, so what do I do?

FOLLOWING MY HEART IN ALABAMA

DEAR FOLLOWING: What you do is tell your husband that you thought you might be able to get over your love for Loretta, but that you haven't. Do not expect him to take the news lightly because he has good reason to be upset. But he needs to know that none of this is his fault.

If he has trouble accepting and understanding this, suggest he contact the Straight Spouse Network (straightspouse.org) for the support it offers to the heterosexual partners of LGBT individuals.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

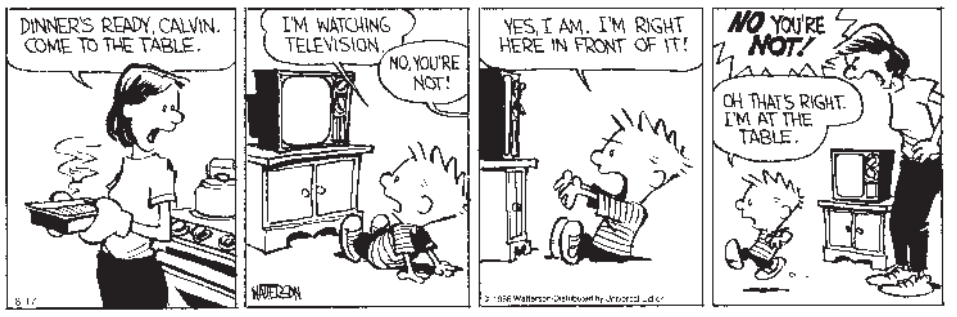
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

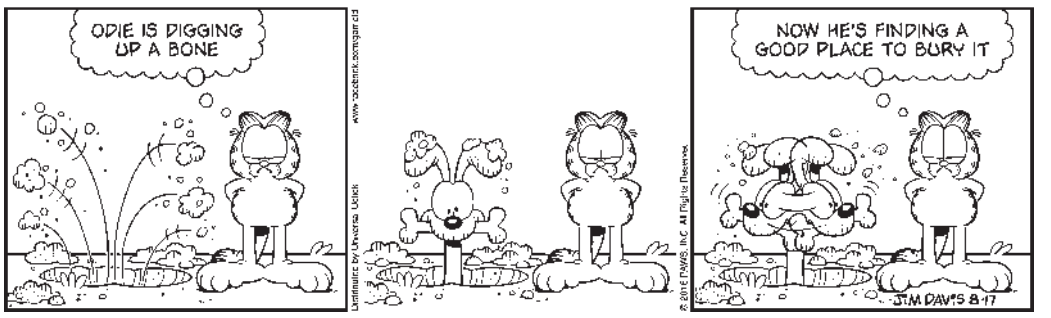
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


DINNER'S READY, CALVIN. COME TO THE TABLE.
I'M WATCHING TELEVISION.
NO, YOU'RE NOT!
YES, I AM. I'M RIGHT HERE IN FRONT OF IT!
NO YOU'RE NOT!
OH. THAT'S RIGHT. I'M AT THE TABLE.

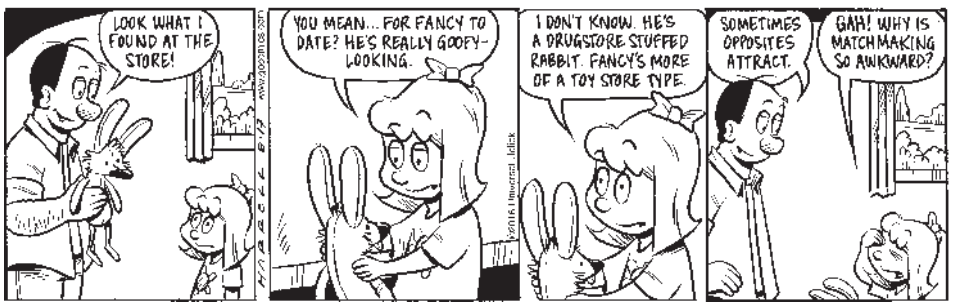
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



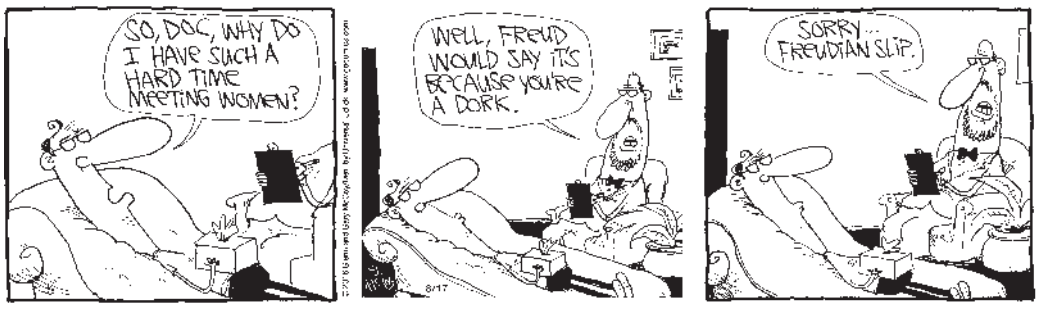
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


LOOK WHAT I FOUND AT THE STORE!
YOU MEAN... FOR FANCY TO DATE? HE'S REALLY GOOFY-LOOKING.
I DON'T KNOW. HE'S A DRUGSTORE STUFFED RABBIT. FANCY'S MORE OF A TOY STORE TYPE.
SOMETIMES OPPOSITES ATTRACT.
GAH! WHY IS MATCHMAKING SO AWKWARD?

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Corn core
4 Score units (Abbr.)
7 Hollywood's "Elephant Boy"
8 Winning
10 Earth Day month
11 Italian sandwich
13 Docile
16 Have bills
17 Composer Ned
18 Nonclerical
19 Pop's sister
20 Up for it
21 Big smiles
23 Minnows' relatives
25 Russian river
26 Sheepish remarks
27 Wahine's gift
28 Spine-tingling
30 "Pygmalion" monogram
33 Tricky crossword, perhaps
36 — over (capsized)
37 Foolish
38 Postpone
39 Quick swims
40 Thesaurus wd.
41 Summer on the Seine

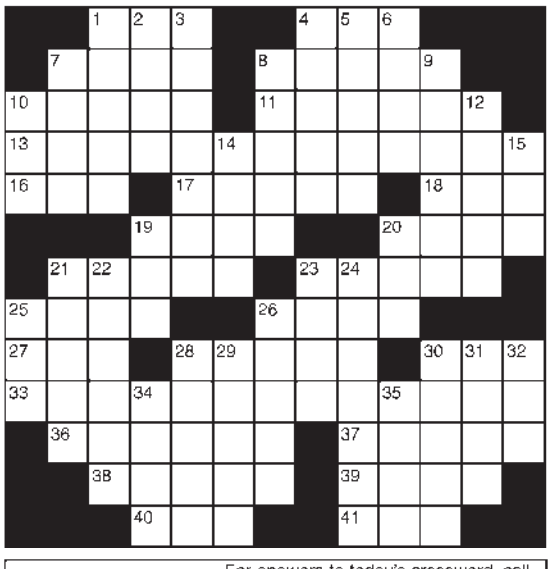
DOWN

1 Chili con —
2 Final life story
3 Civil War battle site
4 Stage
5 Coffee-break hr.
6 Go yachting
7 Gush
8 Separated
9 "CSI" workplace
10 In the past
12 Mosque VIPs
14 Billions of years
15 "See ya!"
19 Be sick
20 Gloomy guy
21 From Athens
22 Poured
23 "— nome" ("Rigoletto" aria)
24 Halloween outing
25 Einstein's birthplace
26 Risque
28 Charlie Brown's sister
29 Pristine
30 Freak out
31 Chignons
32 Sault — Marie
34 Casual tops
35 Make a sweater

Solution time: 23 mins.

F	A	R	M		A	R	M		M	I	_	O	
I	S	F	F		R	O			F	V	F	R	
R	E	A	R		M	A	C	E	S	A	T	E	
M	A	D	I	S	O	N		L	E	N	T	O	
			N	P	R		A	M	S				
P	O	B	O	Y		M	A	S	T	E	R	S	
A	R	I			G	A	S			A	I	O	
M	A	G	P	I	E	S		S	C	A	M	P	
			O	H	M		P	E	I				
A	L	I	T	O		M	A	R	C	E	A	U	
M	A	L	A	P	R	O	P		E	L	I	S	
O	L	E	G		L	O	A		R	E	D	S	
R	A	R	E		S	_	L		O	V	E	R	

Yesterday's answer 8-17



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Dustin Pedroia, 33; Donnie Wahlberg, 47; Sean Penn, 56; Robert De Niro, 73.

Happy Birthday: Move forward regardless of what everyone around you is doing. Express how you feel and what you want to see happen. Stay informed and don't deviate from your plans. Happiness will result from doing the right thing at the right time. If you are kind, the people around you will be more accepting of the choices you make along the way. Your numbers are 4, 11, 18, 24, 30, 42, 45.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Deal with the things that are stopping you from fulfilling your dreams. Reconnect with someone who can help you find a new outlet for the skills and services you have to offer. Changes can be made if you go about them the right way. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Your creative imagination will lead you to solutions as well as opportunities to show off what you have to offer. Taking on a new hobby is encouraged. Greater intimacy with someone you love is likely. Don't waffle. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Temptation will be hard to resist. Consider what you will miss out on if you fail to put in the effort required to be successful. Your past will haunt you if you are too weak to say no. ✪✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): You can bring about a host of positive changes if you make plans and oversee every detail. A partnership will play an important role in the decisions you make and will bring you closer together. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Rely on firsthand information if you take on a challenge. Staying on top of things will be the difference between winning and losing. Don't ignore your gut feeling. Your emotions will not mislead you. Protect your possessions and reputation. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Take a break and go have some fun. Connect with others and make new friends by being a participant. Pamper yourself or purchase something that will lift your spirits. Love is highlighted and a romantic gesture is encouraged. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Your energy and enthusiasm will help you win favors and boost your reputation. A chance meeting will promote a positive change in your current direction. Express your emotions and walk away from negativity and adversity. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Someone will share ideas with you that will stir your imagination. You may face a negative response from your colleagues, but once you set your plans in motion, you'll win approval. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Keep an open mind, but don't feel like you have to follow the crowd. Be patient, especially when dealing with matters pertaining to travel or educational pursuits. Personal and domestic alterations are your best bet. ✪✪✪✪

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		6	4	3	7			
			5			7		
1		8					4	
9	6				2			7
	1						9	
2	3	7						8
7	4		3				2	
3				9	6	5		
			7	2				

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/17

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

6	3	4	8	1	7	9	5	2
8	9	7	5	6	2	4	3	1
5	2	1	3	4	9	7	6	8
1	6	3	7	2	8	5	4	9
4	8	5	1	9	3	6	2	7
9	7	2	4	5	6	8	1	3
3	1	6	9	8	5	2	7	4
2	4	8	6	7	1	3	9	5
7	5	9	2	3	4	1	8	6

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EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Take care of situations pertaining to money, health and legal matters. An open dialogue will help you decide what your next move should be. Be honest about what you want to see happen, and you can't lose. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Let your actions speak for you. Encourage others to follow suit and work diligently to bring about positive changes at work or at home. Don't give in to someone who is using emotional manipulation. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Rethink each step you take before you engage in something that can cause isolation or loss. A partner is best treated as an equal to avoid any backlash. A creative approach to life will bring you the best results. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are innovative, smart and resourceful. You are fearless and motivated.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

L.E.D. LIGHTBULBS Solution: 8 letters

N	R	E	T	N	A	L	E	N	S	E	S	C	R	S
O	N	E	E	R	G	T	U	P	T	U	O	O	E	R
I	A	A	C	C	E	N	T	A	E	H	R	M	S	E
T	R	T	I	U	C	R	I	C	K	E	I	P	U	M
A	R	L	A	M	P	S	U	L	C	C	H	A	F	M
R	A	E	B	E	O	R	A	R	O	O	C	T	F	I
O	Y	A	D	U	R	N	E	N	S	O	L	I	I	D
C	S	O	R	E	D	A	D	P	M	C	C	B	D	R
E	I	C	N	S	T	U	H	M	E	C	O	I	E	T
D	E	T	C	I	C	O	E	E	G	A	T	L	O	V
S	S	A	O	T	R	R	E	W	O	P	I	I	O	S
T	P	N	O	T	C	H	I	P	S	A	M	T	R	R
E	D	R	I	I	S	N	E	D	R	A	G	Y	I	A
S	Y	M	A	F	Ⓦ	Ⓐ	Ⓣ	Ⓣ	E	N	O	Y	A	B
C	E	L	T	H	G	I	R	B	O	A	T	I	N	G

©2016 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 8/17

Accent, Arrays, Bars, Base, Bayonet, Beam, Boating, Bright, Chips, Circuit, Color, Commercial, Compatibility, Cooling, Current, Decoration, Diffuser, Dimmers, Diode, Dye, Emit, Fins, Gardens, Green, Heat, Lamps, Landscape, Lantern, Lenses, Output, Phosphor, Power, Recreation, Semiconductor, Sets, Sockets, Sources, Trailer, Voltage, Watt

Yesterday's Answer: Subscription

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 or 24 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

OCEANVIEW HOUSE FOR RENT

- **2 Bedroom, 1 bath** with carport, large balcony, large patio & gardens. Very private, no neighbors. Available 2 months only, fully furnished, August 25 – October 25. Upper Navy Hill/Chalan Galaide. **$950**/mo. Call Mike at 483-4868 for viewing.
- **2004 Toyota RAV4** also available for **$300**/mo same dates.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

DIPOTO CO.

(1) General Manager (Photographer)
10 years experience with an average skills in Computer Design

(2) Photographers
3 years experience in photo shooting and design

Able to speak/understand Korean and Japanese language.

Salary commensurable to experience.

Please send resume to P.O. Box 506448 or email at dipoto@naver.com

FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN
A TanHoldings Company

is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following vacant position:

Position: Waitress (1)
Qualifications: High school diploma / GED preferred. At least six (6) months serving experience required or six (6) months current hosting experience. Restaurant and Beverages experience preferred. Proven knowledge of Micros or equivalent computer software and cash check, credit card handling procedures required. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights. Ability to speak Chinese language is an advantage.

Applications can be obtained at the Security Office at the Hotel's South Wing. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than Monday, August 29, 2016. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Fiesta Resort & Spa, Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Operations Manager (1)
Job duties: The operations manager is responsible in planning and implementation of the overall business direction of the company. Responsible for creating production and marketing plans and making sure these plans are implemented and targets are achieved accordingly.

Job requirements: Graduate of a 4-year degree course and with a minimum of 6 years of professional progressive management experience and at least 4 years of general management experience in business operations. Must have experience in business operation reporting, contract negotiation with suppliers and service contractors including identifying new business opportunities. Must have a solid track record in accomplishing business objectives.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Wednesday, August 24, 2016.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

L&T Group of Companies

is inviting individuals to apply for the following positions:

Accountant
Associate's Degree in Finance or Accounting with at least 3 years work related experience in financial management and/or payroll and general accounting procedures with emphasis on receivables and payable management. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system and MS Excel, Word and Power Point software. Must be able to work under time pressure and must work flexible hours. CPA not required.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Wednesday, August 24, 2016.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd.

is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Administrative Assistant for Sports Facilities
High school diploma or GED Certificate plus experience working in sports organization or sports facilities for at least 2 years. Must be computer literate in Microsoft Word and Email. With experience in preparing of reports and schedules for sports activities and with good written and oral communication skills. Coaching & training experience is a plus. Can work flexible hours and available on weekends, holidays and weeknights.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Wednesday, August 24, 2016.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

MVA-RFP-16-2339: Architect and Engineering Services

Closing Date: **September 5, 2016** Time: **3:00 p.m.**

Submit sealed proposals to: Marianas Visitors Authority
P.O. Box 500861 CK
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the **Marianas Visitors Authority** office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the **MVA** website at www.mymarianas.com.

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
MVA Chair, Board of Directors

/s/ Christopher A. Concepcion
Managing Director

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Solar Energy Site Surveyor – Residential Solar

Micronesia Renewable Energy, Inc. – CNMI
Gualo Rai, Saipan
Job Type: Full-time

Description:
FULL TIME! Competitive pay with amazing health insurance! Medical, dental, vision. Paid training with the Island's leader in Solar Power. Career path opportunities for top performers. Must have a valid driver's license. Must be able to pass pre-employment drug screen. Must be able to pass criminal background check.

The site surveyor must be skilled to obtain and communicate the necessary project information. Knowledge in areas of solar installations, roofing, construction experience, inspections and/or surveying experience and basic knowledge of residential electrical systems is preferred. Must be able to read plans, specifications, diagrams and equipment submittals. Must have a minimum of one year experience related to the above disciplines. Must have computer experience, ability to lift heavy weights, climb ladders and communicate effectively.

Please forward all resumes to the following email address – pyoriocnmi@micronesiarenewableenergy.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ACCOUNTANT (1) – Must have a Bachelor's degree in Accounting with a minimum of 5 years work related experience, proficient in MS Word, excel, Peachtree and QuickBooks, knowledge of General Accounting and aviation industry, maintain book of accounts, knows how to prepare Financial Statements, Bank Reconciliation, Bookkeeping, Year End reports, Revenue requirements, Accounts receivables and payables, payroll, withholding tax, FICA, BGRT, excise tax and other work assigned; drop and pick up of customers, booking of charter flights, medical evacuation preparation and directly report to the President. Rate: $6.05 to $ 7.50/hr.

GENERAL MECHANIC (1) – Minimum of 5 years professional experience as general mechanic, repairs and maintains physical structures of the facility, repairs of vehicles, office machines and equipments, plumbing, electrical, carpentry, air condition, and all other equipments of the company. Rate: $6.05 to $ 7.50/hr.

Interested applicants can mail their resume at P.O. Box 7688 SVRB, Saipan, MP 96950 or may email to saipan@americopters.com. No phone calls please.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 05-2016

Opening date: August 12, 2016 **Closing date: August 26, 2016**

Position: (1) Receptionist/Secretary I (Admin-Saipan)
(1) General Maintenance I (Tinian Airport)

Detailed information on the position description and qualifications for the above positions are available online at www.cpa.gov.mp or may be picked up and must be submitted at the **CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor, Arrival Terminal, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport during office hours (Mon.-Fri. (except holidays) 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.).** The deadline for submission of all applications and required documents is no later than ***4:30 p.m., Friday, August 26, 2016 (ChST).***

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original police record not more than six (6) months old, copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants ages 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, a 10-year Criminal History Record Check and must be free of convictions for any felonies or violent misdemeanors, along with other 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification.

For additional information, please contact the Human Resources Office by email at evelyn.sablan@cpa.gov.mp or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

WHATZIT Solution: Short end of the stick

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Find today's solution in classified section

NFL threatens to suspend 4 players over PED probe spat

NEW YORK (AP)—The NFL is still seeking an audience with the four linebackers it's investigating for an alleged link to performance-enhancing drugs.

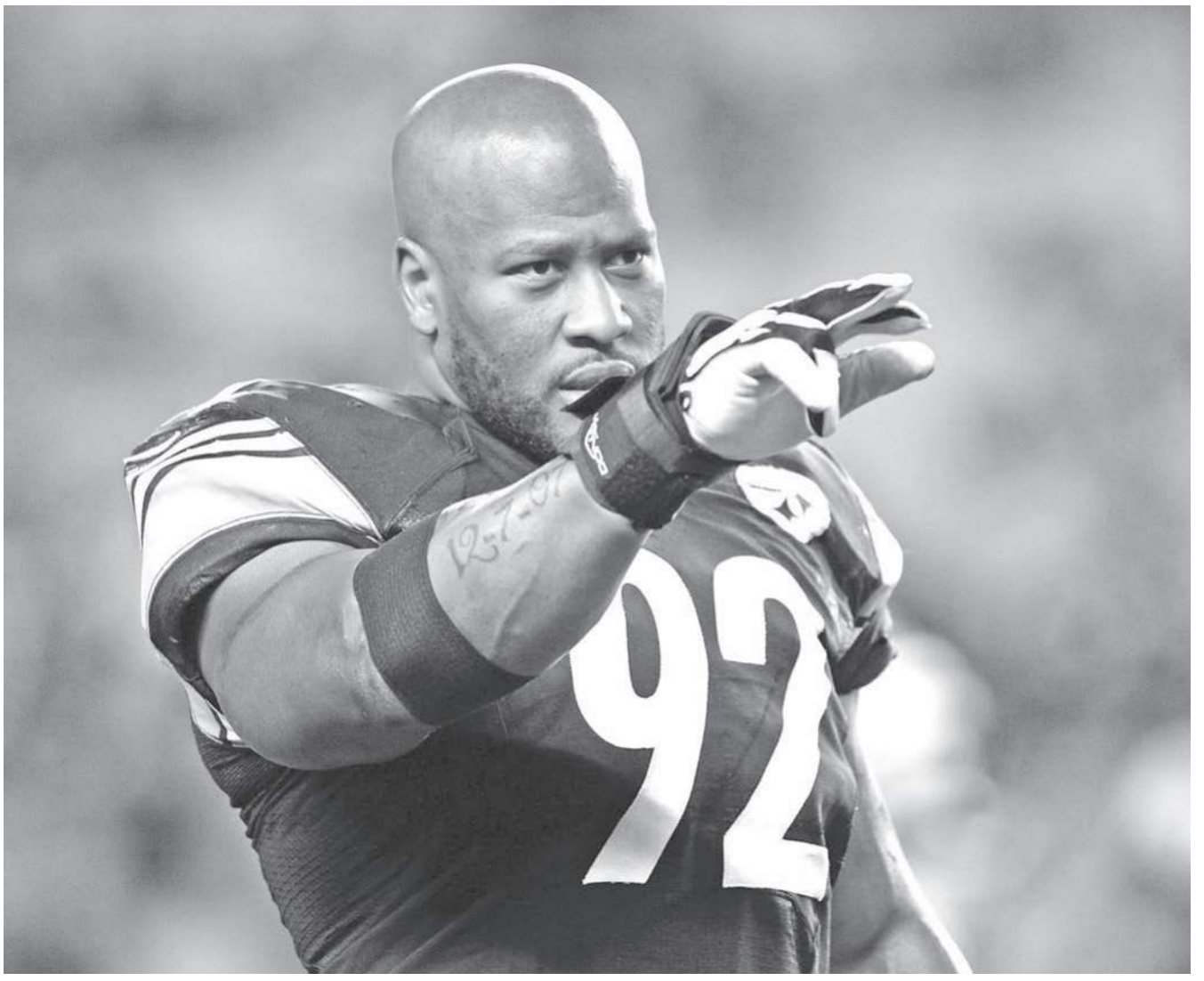
The league's latest message to James Harrison, Clay Matthews, Mike Neal and Julius Peppers came with an ominous and onerous threat: Answer our questions in the next 10 days, or start your suspension.

NFL senior vice president of labor policy and league affairs Adolpho Birch sent a letter Monday to the NFL Players Association detailing a plan to suspend Harrison, Matthews, Peppers and Neal if they don't speak with the league by Aug. 25.

Their punishment would then start the following day on an indefinite basis, to be ended at the discretion of Commissioner Roger Goodell once an interview has been completed.

Birch's memo to the union was obtained by The Associated Press, according to a person with knowledge of the investigation who's not authorized to speak publicly about it.

Harrison, a 14-year veteran, is a longtime leader for the Pittsburgh Steelers. Matthews and Peppers are key cogs in Green Bay's defense, and Neal is currently a free agent who spent the past six seasons with the Packers. Harrison, Matthews and Peppers have been picked for the Pro Bowl a combined 20 times.



AP
The Pittsburgh Steelers' James Harrison is one of the four linebackers NFL is investigating for an alleged link to performance-enhancing drugs.

The NFL first notified the quartet on Jan. 11 about the investigation into a television report by Al-Jazeera featuring allegations made by Charlie Sly, who worked as an intern at an anti-aging clinic, about the use of banned performance-enhancing drugs by several athletes including the four linebackers. Sly later recanted his claims.

Birch, in his letter, said the league has made "at least seven attempts" to arrange the interviews.

Goodell's power to punish has been a prickly issue between the NFL and the union in recent years, so the elevation of this dispute was not surprising since it revolves around the potential of player discipline and how it fits within the collective bargaining agreement.

The stance of the players has been steadfast in this case, refusing to be interviewed without being presented with what they've called credible evidence. Affidavits were sent by the NFLPA on behalf of the players to substitute for the interviews. Birch dismissed each as simply half-page statements, which were "wholly devoid of any detail." Birch also said the league determined that an assertion made in Neal's affidavit was "demonstrably false."

Harrison said in his statement, sent to Birch July 25 by the NFLPA, he never met nor communicated with the source of the report and has never violated the NFL's policy on performance-enhancing substances.

"Neither the CBA nor the policy state that a player must agree to an in-person interview based upon random, baseless verbal remarks or face discipline for a failure to cooperate with a league investigation," union attorney Heather McPhee wrote then on Harrison's behalf.

Birch cited Article 46 of the CBA in noting the discipline that can come for noncooperation or obstruction. Such a suspension would be separate from any possible future determination of violation of the steroid policy.

"We cannot accept your unilateral assertion that the cursory, untested statements you have submitted satisfy the players' obligation," Birch wrote.

Retired quarterback Peyton Manning was also cited in Al-Jazeera's doping report in December. The NFL announced last month it has closed its separate probe on Manning, who granted interviews and provided all records sought by league investigators.

Broncos' Walker tears ACL, expected to miss season

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP)—Denver Broncos defensive end Vance Walker is expected to miss the season after tearing the ACL in his right knee Monday.

Walker was carted off after getting tangled with guard Max Garcia on the second play of 9-on-7 drills during the Broncos' practice Monday morning. Walker could not put any weight on the leg.

"We think the world of Vance and he was having a great camp," head coach Gary Kubiak said in a statement. "We'll support him through his recovery, and he'll come back stronger than ever."

Walker was listed as one of the starting defensive ends on the team's depth chart. He was expected to step into the starting role after Malik Jackson signed with Jacksonville in the offseason.

Walker played in 15 regular-season games and all three playoff games for the Broncos last year. He had 33 tackles during the season and five more in the playoffs.

Rookie Adam Gostis, Lars Koht and Billy Winn could get some long looks at defensive end with Walker out.

Wide receiver Emmanuel Sanders and cornerback Chris Harris Jr. got into a small fight on the sidelines. Sanders appeared to beat Harris on a go route before Harris drew a pass interference flag trying to contain the receiver. The play spilled onto the sidelines, and both helmets were ripped off during the scuffle. No punches were thrown.

Sanders and Harris didn't take any more reps during the drill, but Kubiak said neither was thrown out of practice.

"They're just tired of going at each other but we've got to keep our composure," Kubiak said. "Guys are going to get upset battling each other but there's things they won't let you do on the field so we can't do those in practice, either."

Later, Sanders went across the field and shook hands with Harris and cornerback Aqib Talib.

Sanders and Harris declined to talk to reporters.

Sanders had a good day before the fight. He got behind Talib on a sideline route and caught a touchdown pass from Trevor Siemian. A few plays later Siemian connected with Jordan Norwood on a similar play against free safety Antonio Glover.

Siemian had a strong day in his battle with Mark Sanchez for the starting quarterback role. That is the biggest question Kubiak needs to answer, but there could be some clarity when the Broncos start joint practices with San Francisco on Wednesday that finish with a preseason game Saturday night.

"This week is a big week for this team," Kubiak said. "You're getting to the point where you've got to start to answer those things."

In San Diego, the Chargers placed wide receiver Stevie Johnson and nose tackle Sean Lissemore on injured reserve on Monday.

Johnson underwent season-ending surgery on his right knee after getting hurt in the training camp's second practice. Last year, Johnson, a slot receiver, had leg injuries which restricted him to 45 catches for 497 yards and three touchdowns.

Lissemore continued to have problems with his shoulders in training camp. Lissemore, who played in 11 games for the Chargers last season, was headed for a backup role with the offseason signing of Brandon Mebane.

"This is a tough one," Chargers coach Mike McCoy said of Monday's roster moves. "We are talking about two guys that they know what it means to be a pro."

Johnson's absence means additional opportunities for Tyrell Williams and Dontrelle Inman.

With Lissemore out, a defensive line that is still minus unsigned Joey Bosa, the team's top draft pick, is getting thin. Damion Square and Ryan Carrethers will have the chance to replace Lissemore.

The Chargers also signed defensive tackle Kamal Johnson and linebackers Zack Hodges and James Vaughters. Cornerback Carrington Byndom was waived.

In San Francisco, the 49ers backup quarterback Thad Lewis will miss the entire season after tearing knee ligaments during an exhibition game.

Coach Chip Kelly said Monday that Lewis tore his ACL on a scramble Sunday against Houston and will need season-ending surgery.

The injury leaves San Francisco with just two completely healthy quarterbacks in camp. Blaine Gabbert and Colin Kaepernick are competing for the starting job although Kaepernick did not throw the last two practices last week or play in the exhibition opener because of a sore throwing shoulder.

The 49ers are hopeful that Kaepernick can return to practice this week, although Kelly said Monday he had no further information beyond Kaepernick being day to day.

Rookie Jeff Driskel is the other quarterback on the roster but he struggled throwing the ball in his debut, going 4 for 12 for 20 yards. Driskel did run for 61 yards on five carries.

Lewis was 12 for 21 for 97 yards and is the only offensive player with experience in Kelly's system after having spent last season as a backup in Philadelphia.

"I'm just really disappointed for him because I thought he played well yesterday and was really starting to come on," Kelly said.

In Massachusetts, Tight end Rob Gronkowski left the first day of joint practices between the Patriots and Bears on Monday with an apparent lower-body issue.

Gronkowski made awkward cut while running a route during 7-on-7 drills. He grimaced after the play and paused briefly before jogging back gingerly to rejoin his teammates.

He was then led back to the locker room by a trainer and did not return.

"Hopefully he's all right, and we'll see what it is," quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo said.

Monday was the first of three joint practices the teams will have in advance of Thursday's preseason matchup.

Nats' bullpen bails out Scherzer in win over Rockies

DENVER (AP)—Washington ace Max Scherzer never did find his groove Monday night.

Not a problem, though—the bullpen took care of this one.

Five relievers combined for five scoreless innings and Bryce Harper doubled in the go-ahead run in the seventh as the Nationals beat the skidding Colorado Rockies 5-4.

Sammy Solis (2-3) got the win and Colorado-native Mark Melancon needed only four pitches in the ninth to earn his 34th save in 37 chances. The NL East leaders have won three straight and four of five.

"Our bullpen came in and bailed each other out," manager Dusty Baker said. "It's hard to shut these guys out for the last four or five innings of a ballgame."

Jayson Werth and Wilson Ramos homered for Washington.

Werth hit a two-run homer estimated at 444 feet in the third inning off Rockies starter Jorge De La Rosa and reached safely three times to extend his on-base streak to a career-best 43 games.

The stretch is the longest in the majors this season and it ties Werth with Ryan Zimmerman for the Nationals record.

"It's a product of my approach," Werth said. "My focus has always been to get on base. If you get on base, good things can happen."

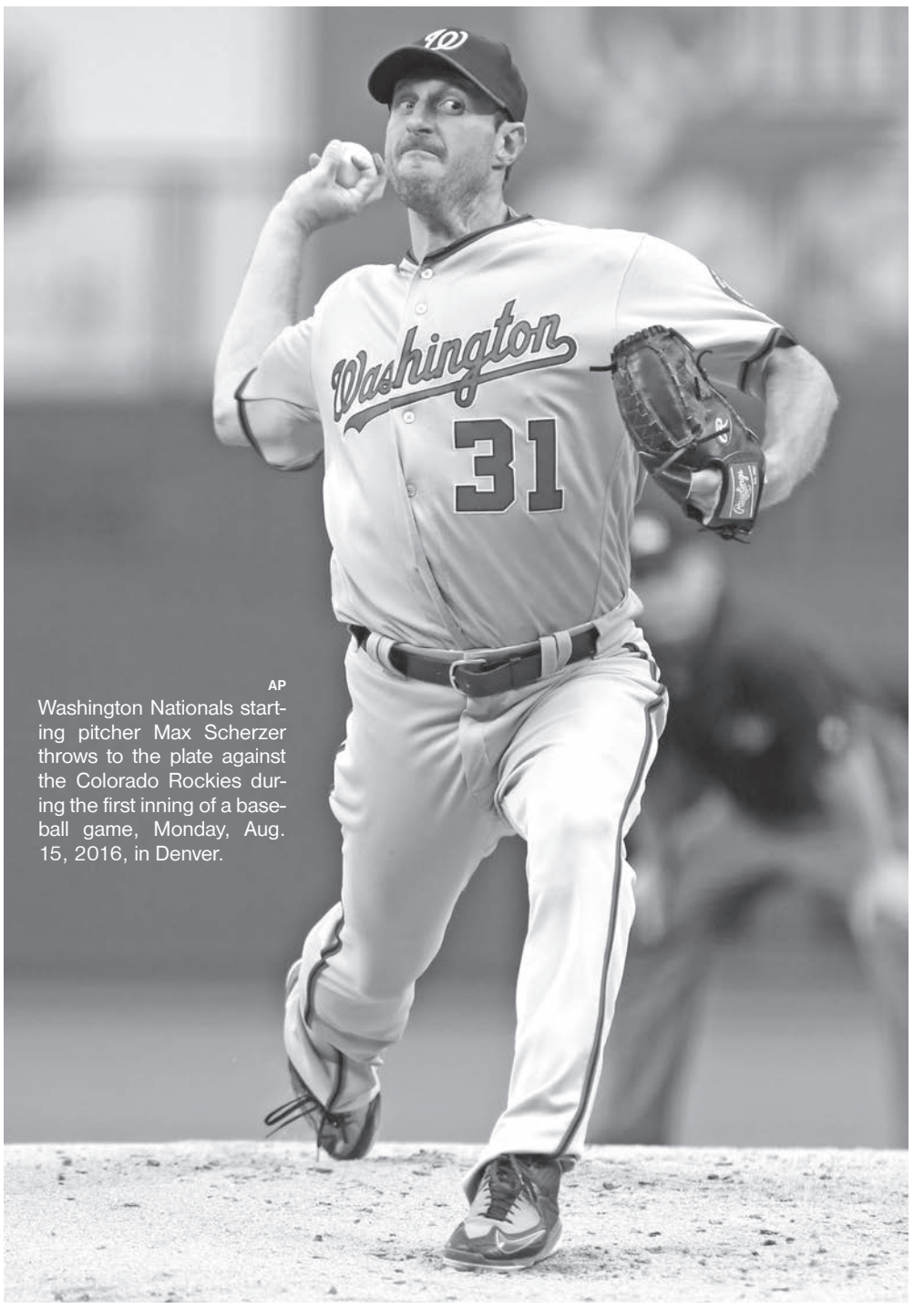
DJ LeMahieu had the fourth four-hit game of his career and Charlie Blackmon hit his sixth home run in four games for Colorado. Blackmon was selected the NL player of the week after leading the majors with seven home runs last week.

Still, the Rockies have lost eight of nine.

"We are dealing with multiple challenges at the same time right now, but the bottom line is you have to win games," Colorado manager Walt Weiss said. "We are fighting, but we are coming up short."

Jordan Lyles (3-4) took the loss.

Scherzer allowed seven hits and four runs in four innings.



AP

Washington Nationals starting pitcher Max Scherzer throws to the plate against the Colorado Rockies during the first inning of a baseball game, Monday, Aug. 15, 2016, in Denver.

Colorado scored three in a 35-pitch first inning. David Dahl hit a two-run double with the bases loaded and Daniel Descalso added a sacrifice fly.

Blackmon made it 4-2 with his homer in the fourth.

The Nationals' bullpen pen shut down the Rockies from there as Matt Belisle and Solis combined for 2 1/3 innings. Blake Treinen needed just one pitch to induce Nolan Arenado into an inning-ending double play in the seventh, and Shawn Kelley struck out two in a hitless eighth.

"I just didn't pitch efficiently," Scherzer said. "I just didn't do a lot of things right tonight. I just couldn't get in a groove.

"I'm just glad I got picked up by the bullpen and the offense."

Daniel Murphy hit an RBI single in the fifth, Ramos connected for a tying home run in the sixth and Harper hit his second double of the night in the seventh to give Washington a 5-4 lead.

Harper played for the second straight day after missing five games with a neck injury.

Red Sox 3, Indians 2

In Cleveland, David Ortiz hit a go-ahead, two-run homer in a three-run sixth inning, and the Boston Red Sox defeated the Cleveland Indians to extend their winning streak to four.

Ortiz's 27th home run of his farewell season was the 530th of his big league career. Ortiz homered in all three games the Red Sox played in Cleveland this season.

Yankees 1, Blue Jays 0

In New York, Chad Green struck out 11 in six dominant innings, Aaron Judge delivered again with an RBI double and Dellin Betances escaped a big ninth-inning jam, leading New York over Toronto.

Betances got major league RBI leader Edwin Encarnacion to ground into a game-ending, around-the-horn double play with runners at the corners.

The Yankees won for the fifth time in six games, taking the first 1-0 decision between the teams since 2005. They dropped Toronto percentage points out of first place in the AL East and pulled within 5 1/2 games of new division leader Baltimore.

Royals 3, Tigers 1

In Detroit, Ian Kennedy pitched effectively into the seventh inning to win for the first time since June 26 as Kansas City beat Detroit.

The Tigers lost Miguel Cabrera after four innings to a strained left biceps. Cabrera appeared to injure himself in a first-inning collision with Cheslor Cuthbert at first base, but batted twice before leaving the game.

Detroit said the slugger is day to day.

Kennedy (7-9) ended an eight-start winless streak, allowing one run and five hits in 6 2/3 innings. Three relievers finished, with Kelvin Herrera pitching the ninth for his fifth save.

Rangers 5, Athletics 2

In Arlington, Adrian Beltre hit a grand slam not long after Texas ended a 24-inning scoreless streak, and Martin Perez earned his first win since late June to lead the Rangers over Oakland.

Beltre's 100th home run at Globe Life Park came against former teammate Ross Detwiler (1-1) in the fifth with Texas trailing 2-1. His 10th career slam came three batters after Shin-Soo Choo broke his left forearm when he was hit by a pitch.

Marlins 6, Reds 3

In Cincinnati, Chris Johnson drove in two runs with a homer and a double, former reliever David Phelps pitched into the sixth inning in his third start of the season and Miami won the opener of its four-game series against Cincinnati.

Marcell Ozuna also homered and Dee Gordon beat Joey Votto's high toss to pitcher Blake Wood covering first base for a bases-loaded, two-run infield single. The wild card-contending Marlins have won two straight after a three-game skid.

Rays 8, Padres 2

In St. Peterburg, Drew Smyly allowed just a solo homer over seven innings of one-hit ball, and Tampa Bay got home runs from Logan Forsythe and Kevin Kiermaier in its victory over San Diego.

Alexei Ramirez hit his fifth homer and Derek Norris walked twice -- those were the only baserunners against Smyly (5-11).

Pirates 8, Giants 5

In San Francisco, Gregory Polanco had a homer and four RBI, Ryan Vogelsong won in his return to AT&T Park and Pittsburgh beat San Francisco.

Andrew McCutchen added two hits, two RBI and a spectacular catch in the eighth inning to help Pittsburgh move within one game of idle St. Louis for the second NL wild card.

That was enough for Vogelsong (2-2) to win despite an up-and-down outing.

Diamondbacks 10, Mets 6

In Phoenix, Welington Castillo, just back from a six-day leave due to complications with the birth of his son, matched his career high of four hits to lead Arizona over New York.

Castillo doubled twice, drove in two runs and scored twice for the last-place Diamondbacks, who swept three games from the defending NL champions last week in New York.

Mariners 3, Angels 2

In Anaheim, Nelson Cruz hit his 30th home run to lead Felix Hernandez and Seattle past Los Angeles as the Angels matched a franchise record with their 11th consecutive defeat.

Hernandez (7-4) struck out eight and pitched into the seventh inning to help the Mariners remain two games behind Boston for the second AL wild card.

The Angels had lost 11 straight on three other occasions, but never under manager Mike Scioscia. Last in the AL West, Los Angeles (49-69) is a season-high 20 games under .500.

A-Rod says he won't play for any team this season

NEW YORK (AP)—Alex Rodriguez says he won't play again this season.

The three-time AL MVP was released Saturday by the New York Yankees, who owed him about $27 million for the rest of his contract, which runs through 2017.

Any team could sign A-Rod for a prorated share of the major league minimum of $507,500, and Rodriguez's hometown Miami Marlins said Sunday they were discussing whether to reach out to the 41-year-old.

Rodriguez spokesman Ron Berkowitz says in a statement Monday: "I want to put all this talk to rest about Alex playing for any team this season."

Berkowitz adds: "It's not happening. Like he said Friday night, he is happy and he is going to take some time to relax and hang with his family and friends."

Yankees manager Joe Girardi said that once Rodriguez left Yankee Stadium, he didn't expect the star to join another team. But, Girardi added Monday night, "nothing that Alex does should ever surprise us."

"I know how much he loves this game and I know how much he loves working," Girardi said. "He's a workaholic, maybe sometimes to a detriment, where he wears himself out a little bit. But I know how much he loves putting on that uniform. I know how much he loves competing. I know how much he loves to play the game, and that's probably why this week was so tough for me, because that's what I want in a player, and me and Alex have been through a lot together, and I have really strong feelings for him."

Following Rodriguez's season-long drug suspension in 2014, Girardi enthusiastically started him at designated hitter for all of 2015, and Rodriguez responded with his best season since 2010. But his production dropped during the season's final two months and did not improve in the first half of this season.

A-Rod lost his DH job against right-handed pitchers at the start of July and then was laid off against lefties three weeks later. Friday night's start was just his third since July 22.

When Rodriguez said Sunday he would play his Yankees swan song five days later, Girardi said he would try to get A-Rod into every game he wanted. But Girardi denied him starts in two of three games at Boston, and then rejected Rodriguez's request to open Friday at third, A-Rod's office from 2004-13.

"I was quite angry about the strain. I was angry about it because I didn't feel that it needed to happen," Girardi said. "I'm going to miss him. I'm going to miss this guy. "

CNMI bets secure playoff berths in Fiji

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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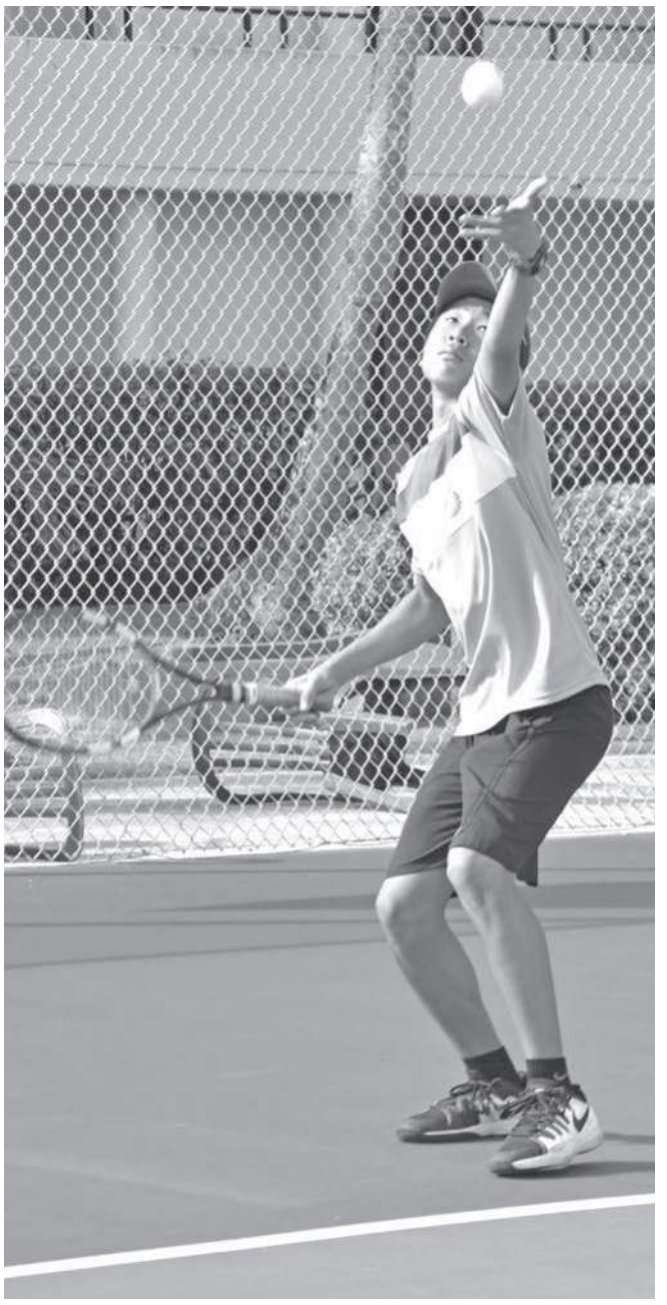
REPORTER

At least five CNMI players have clinched playoff tickets in their respective divisions in the 2016 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships after Day 2 pool matches were completed yesterday in Lautoka, Fiji.

One of them was Ji Min Woo, who swept his Group 4 matches in the boys U14 singles after beating New Caledonia's Robin Seelan, 4-1, 5-4 (4) yesterday. Woo topped his pool with his 3-0 record and will be joined by Seelan (2-1) in the quarterfinals.

Also gaining a Round of 8 berth was Woo's fellow CNMI player Seung Jin Paik, who finished Group 3 with a 2-1 record after defeating Vanuatu's Zachary Sands, 4-1, 4-1, on Day 2. The Top 2 players in the four groups were given slots to the quarterfinals, which will begin today.

In the boys U14 singles, players were divided into only two pools and the Top 2 in each group will earn playoffs berths. Robbie Schorr is assured one of the two semis spots in Group 1 as he remained unbeaten after the second day of the competition. Schorr got two more victories yesterday after prevailing against Tonga's Sigi Palelei, 4-0, 4-1, and American Samoa's John Paul Lim, 4-0, 4-0, to improve to a group best 4-0 mark. Schorr will go for a sweep today against CNMI teammate Sean Lee, who holds a 2-1 mark and has a chance to get a semis ticket if he upsets the former and Vanuatu's Samuel Strid (2-1) loses to Palelei.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Ken Song and four other CNMI players are assured of playoff berths in the 2016 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships after winning their respective matches in Fiji yesterday.

In Group 2, Ken Song is in second place with his 3-1 record following his victories over Fiji's Kelese Kofe , 4-2, 4-1, and Abikash Kumar, 4-1, 4-0. Song is likely to join Schorr to the Final Four after winning over Kofe (3-1), who has a tough final assignment in the unbeaten Tahiti player Vaitea Molinier (4-0).

In the girls U14 singles, which also has two pools, either Malika Miyawaki or Asia Raulerson will advance to the semis. The two CNMI players hold similar 2-1 records for second place behind Tahiti's Lea Lamorelle (3-0). Miyawaki will face Lamorelle and Kiribati's Carolyn Mwang today, while Raulerson also takes on the latter and Vanuatu's Desiree Digno.

In other results on Day 2, Carol Lee and Isabel Heras are still undefeated in the girls U16 singles to boost their semis chances.

Lee has a 2-0 record in Group 1 after shutting down the Federated States of Micronesia's Sunshein Palik, 4-0, 4-0, while Heras has the same mark in Group 2 following her 5-3, 5-3 triumph over fellow CNMI player Tania Tan (1-2).

In the girls U12 and U14 singles, the playoff chances of siblings Coume and Conatsu Kaga depend on the results of today's matches. Coume holds 2-1 record for second place in Group 2 behind Fiji's Saoirse Breen (3-0) and Tahiti's Kira Fong Loi (3-) and the CNMI player has to win over the latter and against Samoa's Maria Kerslake today to earn a semis ticket. Conatsu also has a 2-1 mark in Group 1 of the girls U14 singles behind Vanuatu's Rosalie Molballeh (3-0) and Samoa's Eleanor Schuster (3-0) and must pull off an upset against the latter today coupled with her win over compatriot Maria Gregoire to stay in contention.

In the boys U16 singles, both Michael Ren and Vincent Tudela are out of the running as they are at the bottom of the standings in their respective pools.

MILLER'S

From Page 28

Now, instead of a coronation for Felix, it's a celebration for Miller, who finished second to the American at last year's world championships. Her dive will go down as one of the most dramatic images we've seen at these, or any, Olympics.

Not that she planned it that way.

"I don't know what happened. My mind just went blank," Miller said. "The only thing I was thinking (about) was the gold medal, and the next thing I know, I was on the ground."

And yet, she didn't even get the evening's biggest roars. Those were reserved for pole vaulter Thiago Braz da Silva, who gave Brazil its first medal in track and field by setting an Olympic record (6.03 meters) to upset world-record holder and defending champion Renaud Lavillenie of France.

"I thought I was in a movie. ... My first urge was to go run and hug Thiago so much," said bronze medalist Sam Kendricks of the United States. "But I knew that it was his moment and he needed to be on camera and experience it for himself."

Lavilleine put the bar at 6.08 meters for his last attempt, and as he was getting ready to jump, the crowd booed. He responded with a thumbs-down sign. After the loss, he complained about the spectators taking sides.

In the 800 meters, David Rudisha of Kenya won a second straight gold medal, and Clayton Murphy picked up bronze to give the United States its first medal in that event since 1992.

But the dive is what everyone will be talking about.

As Miller, who formerly competed for University of Georgia, lay on her back, gasping for breath and maybe even stunned herself at what she'd done, Felix sat on the ground stone-faced. Ten seconds passed. Then 20.

The winner's first clue came from the stands, not the scoreboard, which showed Miller winning in 49.44 seconds, ahead of Felix and bronze medalist Shericka Jackson of Jamaica.

A familiar voice cut through the air.

"I heard my mom screaming," Miller said. "When I heard her screaming, I was like, `OK, I had to have won the race."

Starting from Lane 7, Miller expanded the lag, instead of getting gobbled up the way most women do when Felix is on the track.

Stride for stride they ran down the last 100 meters, until the last few steps. Felix, classically trained by Bobby Kersee, made a textbook lean into the finish line. Miller tried something else. Something no coach would ever teach.

"She gave everything she had and her legs gave out at the line," said Miller's coach, Lance Brauman, who also works with 100-meter silver medalist Tori Bowie of the U.S. "Was not intentional."

Then again, amazing things happen with a gold medal at stake.

While Miller jumped with her arms flailing forward, the rules say the win is determined by which athlete has any part of her torso cross the line first. The photo finish showed Miller's shoulder barely beat Felix to the line.

"I don't think I ever quite had a year this tough," Felix said, as her eyes welled with tears.

A fresh round of troubles tormented South America's first Olympics:

The German Olympic team said canoe slalom coach Stefan Henze died from injuries sustained in a car crash last week.

The Egyptian judo athlete who refused to shake his Israeli opponent's hand after losing a first-round heavyweight fight was sent home.

The Olympic Broadcasting Service said seven bystanders sustained minor injuries when a television camera it operates plummeted about 30 feet in the Olympic park.

South Korean cyclist Park Sang-hoon was taken from the velodrome on a stretcher with his neck immobilized after a crash multi-discipline omnium competition .

And Usain Bolt, the co-star of these games along with Michael Phelps, said that a tight schedule slowed down the sprinters in the 100 meters Sunday. Bolt blamed the hour turnaround from the semifinals to the finals for his lumbering start before he recovered to win his third consecutive gold medal and retain the title as the world's fastest man.

CNMI

From Page 28

IOC recognized Guam and American Samoa, but despite numerous promises and assurances (from then president Juan Antonio Samaranch on down), they never got around to acting on our application," he added.

White, in a separate message to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, also clarified that IOC did not deny NMSA/CNMI's application nor provided any explanation.

"The IOC never acted on our application, despite many promises to do so. In 1995, they changed the eligibility rule, and told us that we were no longer eligible for recognition," White said.

IOC's rules on admitting a nation (National Olympic Committee) based on its Charter (updated on August 2015) say "to be recognized by an NOC and accepted as such NOC, a national federation must exercise a specific, real and on-going sports activity, be affiliated to an IF (international federation) recognized by the IOC, and be governed and comply in all aspects with both the Olympic Charter and the rules of its IFs.

"In the Olympic charter, the expression 'country' means an independent state recognized by the international committee. The name of an NOC must reflect the territorial extent and tradition of its country and shall be subject to the approval of the IOC Executive Board," the Charter further stated.

"The IOC changed its rules to provide that only independent countries were eligible for recognition, and told us that this meant us. So the IOC has recognized every other American territory, and I think 13 non-independent countries in all, but the Northern Marianas is still on the outside, looking in. We've tried to ask the IOC to right the wrong which they did to us so many years ago. First, they told us to go ask the United States Olympic Committee for help. USOC ignores us. Lately, the IOC doesn't even answer our letters," White said.

The NMSA head added that the CNMI does not need a clearance or certification from USOC, but the IOC told them that they should get support from USOC, so they wrote to USOC asking for help.

"They have never responded," White said.

Despite getting a cold shoulder from both the IOC and USOC, White said NMSA/CNMI will keep on trying.

"We are going to use every means at our disposal to ask IOC to live up to its promises and do the right and honorable thing. I can't be more specific at this time," he said.

BEARS

From Page 28

inning, while Jeffrey Lizama struck out three batters.

Despite missing their target, the BSI Aces remained in contention as they also held their own on defense with the Bears failing to light up the board in the remaining innings after a four-run top of the second. The BSI Aces forced the Bears to 1-2-3 innings on five occasions, including at the top of the ninth and last inning to boost their chances to tie the series.

The top of the ninth ended with the Bears hanging on to a one-run lead as earlier at the bottom of the sixth, the BSI Aces got their third run with pitcher John Tudela making it home off a sacrifice out from Mike Iguel.

Mike's brother, Luis then led off for the BSI Aces at the bottom of the last inning, walked, and advanced to second off a Bears error before being tagged out at third for the second out. The BSI Aces were charged with the first out when Bears closer A.J. Lizama struck out Secharmidal. A.J. came in for Jeffrey after Luis walked and the former started his shift by giving up a single to second batter Juan Iguel. Juan eventually moved to second after Lamarc advanced to third off a fielder's choice. However, the Iguel siblings were left stranded and the BSI Aces failed to tie the series when Bears shortstop Kiku Lizama caught a fly from Ben Jones to end the game and hand the pennant champions a 2-0 lead in the finals series.

Some Olympic athletes find grass is greener far from home

AP

Russia's Konstantin Semenov, left, watches Qatar's Cherif Younousse Samba, right, passing a ball during a men's beach volleyball round of 16 match at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Friday, Aug. 12, 2016.

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—For Sale: One elite athlete, lightly used. Will swap citizenship, move to your country and even marry to compete for your Olympic team if the price is right. (Note: All marriage proposals must include a photo.)

When it comes to the Olympics, a lot more mercenaries—er, athletes—change allegiances than you'd think.

Here at the Rio Games, Bahrain's delegation of 30 athletes includes exactly four Bahraini natives. Twenty-three of Qatar's 39 athletes were born somewhere else. Its handball team of 14 players includes 11 foreign-borns, including Marko Bagaric, who helped lead the Qataris to an upset win over Croatia, the land of his birth.

He felt bad for Croatia but got over it soon enough.

"The worst feeling was during the national anthem," Bagaric said. "Ah, but what can I do?"

While oil-rich, Gulf states game the system most often, they're hardly the only nations that seek to flip athletes like used-car dealers. The 550-plus strong U.S. delegation includes 46 athlete—about 8 percent—born elsewhere. China is so dominant in table tennis that one in five of the 140 competitors spread across 55 teams were born in the world's most populous nation.

The reasons for what noted Olympic historian David Wallechinsky calls a "braun drain" and others a "passport swap" or "transfer of allegiance" are varied. In some cases, like China's table-tennis players, American basketball and baseball athletes, or Kenya's long-distance runners, the talent pool at home is so deep that reserves with no chance to make the first team are still better than any other country's best.

Some athletes take advantage of their ancestry and others gain citizenship through marriage or relocation. But the International Olympic Committee rules governing such moves are so laughably lax that mercenaries in the games are every bit as prominent as in other big-time, big-money sports like soccer. All such moves require is agreement by both nations' Olympic committees, some of that consensus no doubt influenced by cash.

Qatar, for example, bought the entire Bulgarian weightlifting team in 2000 for a reported $1 million, awarding citizenship and new names to all eight athletes involved.

But only one of them, Angel Popov—renamed Said Saif Assad just in time for the Sydney Games—returned to his new home with a bronze medal. That left some Qataris wondering whether the money would have been better spent making sure Bulgaria's notorious doping program was included in the deal.

Undaunted, the Qataris bought Kenyan long-distance runners Stephen Cherono and Albert Chepkurui three years later. That didn't work out much better.

"Nation shopping," yet another name for the practice, has become prevalent enough in track and field competitions that when the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) convenes Saturday, finding a way to tighten up the eligibility for the movement of athletes is near the top of their agenda.

Soccer's worldwide governing body, FIFA, may be the most corrupt outfit in sports, but their rules on "nation shopping" are both simple and effective: Once an athlete has played for a country in an internationally sanctioned tournament at the senior level, he's bound to that country for life. No exceptions.

Both Wallechinsky and Bill Mallon, a historian and statistician with the U.S. Olympic Committee, would like to see the IOC adopt a similar measure. Wallechinsky also thinks a limit on foreign-born athletes on each national team, or the number allowed to compete in any given sport, might work as well.

Mallon also said removing the exception allowing the national Olympic committees involved to override the rule already on the IOC books might turn the trick. It currently states athletes can switch countries "provided at least three years have passed since the competitor last represented his former country."

Brazil is a step closer to gold, but Sweden comes first

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—The Brazilians are a step away from a shot at Olympic gold, and nothing could make the host nation's fans happier.

Women's soccer has not traditionally been popular in Brazil, but Marta and her teammates have been capturing hearts as they've traveled across the country en route to a semifinal match against Sweden at the Maracana Stadium on Tuesday.

Some fans have even replaced Neymar's name on their No. 10 jerseys with Marta's.

"We are aware of the pressures," Brazil coach Vadao said through a translator on Monday. "The result has to be a gold because that's a need for women's football."

But while Brazil is a win away from the gold-medal match, the team will first have to overcome a pumped up Sweden team that knocked off the three-time defending champion United States in the quarterfinals.

The loss sent the top-ranked Americans home without a medal for the first time at the Olympics. The World Cup champions were vying for their third straight gold.

Sweden deployed a defensive strategy against the United States and won 4-3 in a penalty shootout after a 1-1 draw. Afterward, U.S. goalkeeper Hope Solo drew attention for calling Sweden "a bunch of cowards" for its style of play.

It's a good bet that Sweden will use a similar tactic against Brazil, which defeated the Swedes 5-1 in group play. Marta and Beatriz each had two goals.

Brazil, ranked eighth in the world, finished atop Group E and went on to defeat upstart Australia in the quarterfinals, advancing 7-6 on penalties after a scoreless draw.

The Brazilians have twice won silver medals at the Olympics, where women's soccer made its debut in 1996. Both times, at the 2004 Athens and 2008 Beijing Games, the United States won in the final.

Sweden, ranked No. 6, finished third in the group before the big win against the United States. Sweden's best finish at the games was in Athens when the team fell to Germany in the bronze-medal match.

"Now we have so much energy. The way we talk about the game tomorrow, it's a special moment," Sweden coach Pia Sundhage said. "I thought it was a really special moment in the quarterfinal against the United States. And now we have another one. That is unique. In the same tournament, you have two special games. Now we have a chance to win a medal and we'll take it."

Vadao said Brazil will be without defender Fabiana, who was stretchered off in the match against the Matildas. Veteran Cristiane, who has the most Olympic goals of all-time among women with 14, is a game-time decision with a hamstring injury.

Nearly 70,000 tickets have been sold for the match at the 78,000-seat stadium in Rio de Janeiro.

Tuesday's other semifinal match, between Canada and Germany, will be played about 275 miles to the north in Belo Horizonte. The Olympic soccer tournament has been played in cities across the country, in addition to Rio.

Americans denied gold for 1st time since 2008 Games

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—The Americans were denied a gold medal Monday for the first time since the 2008 Beijing Olympics, and it took two big stumbles to keep the "Star Spangled Banner" on pause.

One of the slips cost U.S. gymnastics star Simone Biles gold on the balance beam. The other secured Shaunae Miller's win in the women's 400 meters over Allyson Felix, the U.S. star who missed out on her fifth Olympic gold medal.

Miller, of the Bahamas, crossed .07 seconds ahead of Felix thanks to a head-first dive that came after a downpour forced a delay in the evening events and sent spectators scurrying for shelter at Olympic Stadium.

Biles lost her status as Rio de Janeiro's juggernaut after a blunder on the balance beam prevented her from a record-tying fourth gold in gymnastics at these games.

The American's shutout came on a day the Rio Games were dogged by rain, wind and fire.

In the morning, there was too little wind, then too much, at the sailing regatta on Guanabara Bay, where men's and women's medal races were postponed until Tuesday. In the afternoon, smoke and ash from a wind-whipped wildfire billowed over the field hockey stadium in Deodoro.

Boxing may have to weather another storm of its own after a surprising decision in the men's heavyweight gold medal fight, where boos cascaded down from the crowd when Evgeny Tischenko, of Russia, was announced as the unanimous winner over Vassiliy Levit, of Kazakhstan, who looked like the winner.

Biles' blunder allowed Sanne Wevers of the Netherlands to take the gold medal and Laurie Hernandez of the U.S. to slip past Biles for the silver. It also ended Biles' bid to become the first female gymnast to win five golds in a single Olympics.

Already a three-time gold medalist (all-around, team and vault) when she walked onto the floor on Monday, Biles was a favorite on beam as the reigning world champion.

She topped qualifying last week and had just completed the most difficult part of her routine—a tumbling pass that stretches the length of the 4-inch wide slab of wood—when she missed the landing

NFL threatens to suspend 4 players over PED probe spat

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Some Olympic athletes find grass is greener far from home

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Bears move closer to finals sweep

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Chalan Kanoa Bears are a win away from wrapping up the finals series in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League following a 4-3 victory against the BSI Aces in Game 2 last Monday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Game 3 of the best-of-five championship showdown was played yesterday and results were unavailable at press time.

Jeffrey Lizama pitched the Bears into the Game 2 win as he worked the mound in eight innings and allowed only five hits and two earned runs. On offense, Kiku Lizama paced the Bears, as went 3-for-4 at bat and scored two RBIs, which allowed his team to grab the upper hand and never lost it to move closer to the title.

Kiku hit a two-run double at the top of the second inning to break the deadlock, 4-2. Earlier in that inning Jose Lizama blasted an RBI single to put the Bears on the board and slice the BSI Aces' lead to one, 1-2. A Jerome Delos Santos run off a fielder's choice tied the match, 2-2.

The BSI Aces got their two runs at the bottom of the first with Virgil Secharmidal and Lamarc Iguel scoring off the Bears' errors at first and third base, respectively. The Aces went on to lose the early lead, as they were shutdown in the next four innings. The Bears' defense stranded five BSI Aces runners from the second to fifth

See BEARS on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Jeffrey Lizama pitches the Chalan Kanoa Bears to a Game 2 win over the BSI Aces in their title series in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League last Monday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Miller's head-first dive at the finish line upsets Felix

By EDDIE PELLS
AP NATIONAL WRITER

OLYMPIC GAMES Rio2016 Roundup

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)— For beating Allyson Felix, Shaunae Miller gets a gold medal. Maybe they should give her a cape, too.

It took a head-first dive, Superwoman-style, for Miller to spring an Olympic upset Monday over America's top female sprinter in the 400 meters and deny her a record fifth gold medal.

Miller, a 22-year-old from the Bahamas, took an early lead, then held off Felix's charge along the straightaway. Neck-and-neck with two steps to go, Miller sprawled and tumbled across the line to win by .07 seconds.

See MILLER'S on Page 26

AP
Bahamas' Shaunae Miller falls over the finish line to win gold ahead of United States' Allyson Felix, right, in the women's 400-meter final during the athletics competitions of the 2016 Summer Olympics at the Olympic stadium in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Monday, Aug. 15, 2016.

CNMI remains a spectator in Olympics

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

White

Swimmers from the Federated of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, and Palau topped their respective heats in the 50m freestyle race in the Rio Olympics 2016 in Brazil last week after clocking in national records of 26.17 seconds in the men's event and 29.16 and 29.19 in the women's field.

The CNMI's national marks: 24.76 seconds in the men's by Kai Staal and 28.08 seconds in the women's by Nina Mosley.

The Commonwealth swimmers could have been on the place of their fellow Micronesian athletes if only the CNMI is allowed to compete in the Olympics.

After more than three decades since knocking on the Olympic family's doors, the CNMI has yet to gain membership from the International Olympic Committee while the rest of its neighbors in the Pacific—including the tiny island of Nauru—have been admitted to the group.

"This week, as the world celebrates the Olympics, the Northern Marianas has only the bitter memories of what should have been," Northern Marianas Sports Association president Michael White posted on NMSA Facebook page.

"We applied for recognition by the International Olympic Committee in the late 1980s, along with Guam and American Samoa. We were told that our application was in order. The

See CNMI on Page 26

COUNTRIES	G	S	B	T
UNITED STATES	26	23	26	75
GREAT BRITAIN	16	17	8	41
CHINA	15	14	17	46
RUSSIA	11	12	13	36
ITALY	8	9	6	23
GERMANY	8	6	6	20
FRANCE	7	9	8	24
JAPAN	7	4	16	27
AUSTRALIA	6	7	9	22
KOREA	6	3	5	14
NETHERLANDS	6	2	3	11
HUNGARY	5	3	4	12
SPAIN	3	0	2	5
NEW ZEALAND	2	6	0	8
KAZAKHSTAN	2	3	5	10
BRAZIL	2	3	4	9
DPR KOREA	2	3	2	7
KENYA	2	3	0	5
CANADA	2	2	9	13
COLOMBIA	2	2	0	4
CUBA	2	1	4	7
POLAND	2	1	2	5
SWITZERLAND	2	1	2	5
BELGIUM	2	1	1	4
THAILAND	2	1	1	4

As of 5:00 p.m. August 16, 2016

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